

1906.

ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT
OF THE
ISLE OF WIGHT.

BY

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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT,

IN THE YEAR 1906.

*To the Members of the Isle of Wight Rural District
Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1906 on the Vital Statistics, the Progress and Administration, and the Sanitary State at the end of the year of the District under your control.

I. VITAL STATISTICS.

As I have stated in recent Annual Reports, the popu- Population.
lation of the Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary District on April
1st, 1901, was 28,559—14,359 males and 14,200 females.
At the census of 1891 the population of the District was
29,747. On April 1st, 1881, it was 28,008. The correction
made by the Registrar-General in the completed 1901
census returns, for the loss of population by the Rural
District to the Isle of Wight towns in the decennium 1891
to 1901, assumed that at the time of the 1891 census the
Isle of Wight Rural District contained only 27,218 in-
habitants, 790 less than twenty years before, in 1881. The
population of the District in the middle of 1906 is estimated
to have been 29,148. The Isle of Wight as a whole con-

tained 82,418 inhabitants, 37,803 males and 44,615 females, on the 1st of April, 1901. At the same date in 1891 the population of the Isle of Wight numbered 78,672, an increase of 3,746 in ten years.

The natural increase of population measured by excess of births over deaths in your District in 1906 was 167. The natural increase in 1905 was 109.

Population
to the acre.

The Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary District in 1901 contained 86,844 acres, 90 acres of which were inland water, and, subject to loss by sea erosion, the acreage continued practically the same in 1906. The Isle of Wight contains 94,068 acres, of which 142 acres are inland water. Consequently the area of your District is twelve-thirteenths of that of the whole Island. The population to the acre averaged 0.33 or one person to 2.9 acres.

Births and
deaths.

There were registered in your District in 1906 573 births and 406 deaths. 301 deaths were those of males and 272 were those of females. 35 of the births, 23 males and 12 females, were illegitimate. 216 of the deaths were those of males and 190 of the deaths were those of females.

The births and deaths in each quarter were as follows :—

				BIRTHS.			DEATHS.		
				M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total
1st quarter	..			59	71	130	54	49	103
2nd	„	..		83	71	154	53	56	109
3rd	„	..		76	70	146	52	43	95
4th	„	..		83	60	143	57	42	99
				—	—	—	—	—	—
				301	272	573	216	190	406
				—	—	—	—	—	—

Birth-rate
and
death-rate.

In 1906 the birth-rate per 1,000 of the population in the Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary District was 19.6. In 1905

it was 21.7 per 1,000 of the population. In 1904 it was 21.5 per 1,000 ; in 1903, 19.5 ; in 1902, 21.9 ; in 1901, 22.1 ; in 1900, 22.1 ; in 1899, 20.7 ; in 1898, 21.0 ; in 1897, 24.2 ; in 1896, 24.8. The death-rate was 13.9 per 1,000 living. The deaths included those of 82 persons who were not permanently resident within the District. Of these 68 died in public institutions in the District. Deducting the deaths among strangers from all the deaths, the death-rate is reduced to 11.1 per 1,000, or deducting only the deaths among strangers which occurred in public institutions, to 11.5 per 1,000. The deaths among visitors outside public institutions are not always registered as such. In 1906 14 deaths were so registered in your District. Ten of the permanent residents of the District died in the County Hospital at Ryde, which is outside it, and, adding these to the deaths, the rates will be raised to 11.4 and 11.9 per 1,000 respectively. In 1905 the death-rate was 14.5 per 1,000 of the population. In 1904 it was 14.8 per 1,000 ; in 1903, 15.1 ; in 1902, 15.0 ; in 1901, 15.7 ; in 1900, 17.5 ; in 1899, 15.2 ; in 1898, 14.6 ; in 1897, 13.2 ; in 1896, 13.5.

The mean birth-rate in the ten years 1896-1905 was 21.9, and the mean death-rate was 14.9. Comparing the mean birth-rate and the mean death-rate of your District with the birth-rate and death-rate of the year under review, we find the birth-rate was 2.3 and the death-rate 1.0 below the mean of ten years. The mean death-rate excluding strangers was 11.9. The corresponding rate in 1906 was therefore 0.8 below the average or, adding the deaths of residents which occurred in the County Hospital at Ryde, 0.5 below the average.

The birth-rate in England and Wales in 1906 was 27.0 per 1,000 of the population, which is 0.2 per 1,000 below the rate in 1905, and lower than the rate in any other year on

Mean birth-rate and mean death-rate in ten years.

Birth-rate and death-rate in England and Wales.

record ; compared with the average in the ten years 1896-1905, the birth-rate in 1906 shows a decrease of 1.7 per 1,000.

The death-rate in 1906 was 15.4 per 1,000, which was 0.2 above the death-rate in 1905 ; compared with the average rate in the ten years 1896-1905, the death-rate in 1906 shows a decrease of 1.4 per 1,000.

The rate of mortality among infants under one year of age to 1,000 registered births was 133, which is 5 per 1,000 above the rate in 1905. Compared with the average in the ten years 1896-1905, the rate of infantile mortality shows a decrease of 14 per 1,000. The death-rate among persons aged between one year and 60 years was 7.5, and that among persons aged 60 years and upwards was 67.4 per 1,000 of the estimated populations at the respective groups of ages.

The death-rate in England and Wales, less 76 great towns and 142 smaller towns, was 15.1 per 1,000 ; and of infants under one year of age 116 per 1,000 births.

Comparison of the birth-rate and death-rate in the I.W. Rural Sanitary District with those of England and Wales.

The birth-rate, less the 218 towns, was 26.3. The birth-rate in the Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary District in 1906 was 7.4 below the birth-rate of England and Wales, and 9.1 below the mean birth-rate in the ten years 1896-1905. The death-rate was 1.5 below the death-rate of England and Wales, and 2.9 below the mean annual death-rate in the ten years 1896-1905. Deducting the deaths among strangers the death-rate was 4.3 below the general death-rate of the year, and 5.4 (correcting for the 10 deaths in the Isle of Wight County Hospital) below the mean death-rate of the ten years 1896-1905. The death-rate of the Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary District was 1.2 below the death-rate in

England and Wales—less the 218 towns ; or deducting the deaths among strangers, 3.7 or 3.2 below that of the year 1906.

Comparing the death-rate of the Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary District in each of the ten years 1897-1906 with the death-rate in England and Wales, and with the country districts and small towns in the same years, we find it was in—

ENGLAND AND WALES.				RURAL DISTRICTS.			
1897	4.2	below	the average	2.6	below	the average	
1898	3.1	„	„	1.3	„	„	
1899	3.1	„	„	1.1	„	„	
1900	0.8	„	„	0.6	above	„	
1901	1.3	„	„	1.6	below	„	
1902	1.3	„	„	0.3	„	„	
1903	0.3	„	„	0.3	above	„	
1904	1.4	„	„	0.5	below	„	
1905	0.7	„	„	0.4	„	„	
1906	1.5	„	„	1.2	„	„	

In every 1,000 of the population of your district 7.4 Male and 6.5 females died in 1906. female death-rate.

The 406 deaths registered in your District in 1906 included those of 49 infants who died under one year of age. The rate of infant mortality under one year of age to 1,000 registered births was 85. The mean proportion of deaths under one year of age to 1,000 registered births in the ten years 1896-1905 was 79 in your district. In England and Wales the rate of infant mortality was 133, which is 14 per 1,000 below the mean of the ten years 1896 to 1905. In your District it was six above the mean of the District for ten years. It was 48 below the infant mortality of Infant mortality.

England and Wales, and 62 below the mean of ten years. Excluding 218 larger towns, the mean rate of mortality among infants under one year of age to 1,000 registered births was 116. In the Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary District the rate of infant mortality in 1906 was 31 below the mean of the country generally, outside 218 larger towns.

The 49 infants who died under one year of age represented 12 per cent. of the deaths. 62 children, 15 per cent. of all the deaths, died under five years of age; and 13 children, 3 per cent. of all the deaths, died between one and five years. The deaths between one and sixty-five years numbered 190, or 46 per cent. of all the deaths. 152, 37 per cent. of the deaths, died between twenty-five and sixty-five.

Mortality of
the aged.

136 persons died at sixty-five and upwards, which is equal to 33 per cent. of the deaths at all ages. Of these 36 died between sixty-five and seventy, 75 between seventy and eighty, 49 between eighty and ninety, and 7 between ninety and one hundred. The greatest age at death was 99 $\frac{3}{4}$ years, at which age the widow of a yeoman died at Marvel, near Newport. 2 died at ninety-six, a farmer at Merstone and the widow of a blacksmith at Brading. One died at ninety-five, a coastguard pensioner at Yarmouth. One died at ninety-two, a farm labourer, at Freshwater. An authoress, the daughter of a solicitor of Newport, died at ninety-one at Bonchurch; and a farm labourer died at ninety at Adgestone.

Deaths of
strangers in
the District.

The deaths of 82 non-residents included those of 68 persons who died in public institutions in the District. 32 of these, who had resided in the urban districts of the Island, died in the Workhouse, in which 48 deaths occurred. Of the 36 persons who died in the Asylum, 19 belonged to the Island towns. The 17 patients in the National Hospital

for Consumption, who died of phthisis, were strangers to the Isle of Wight. Of the 14 deaths of non-residents which were registered as occurring outside public institutions, 10 were those of strangers to the Island: 3 invalid officers died at Osborne House; a gentleman died suddenly at Freshwater Railway Station, and another at Totland Bay Hotel; 1 died of phthisis at Freshwater, and a body was cast up by the sea on the shore at Brighstone; a resident of Portsmouth committed suicide by drowning off Bembridge, another died suddenly at the "Pointers," at Newchurch, the wife of a sailor in the Navy died of phthisis at Knighton, and a visitor to the Island died of laryngeal phthisis at Bembridge. Of Island residents outside the district who died within it, a domestic servant of Shanklin was thrown from a cycle on Princelet Shoot and was killed, a widow died suddenly when visiting Brading, and a resident of Newport died of phthisis at Newchurch.

Of the 10 residents of the Rural District who died in the Isle of Wight County Hospital at Ryde, 3 belonged to Freshwater and Totland Bay, 1 to Thorley, 1 to Brighstone, 1 to Calbourne, 1 to Shorwell, 1 to Godshill, 1 to Newbridge, and 1 to Gunville.

16 persons died by accident and 2 by suicide in your District in 1906. Of those who died by accident, 4 were Deaths by accident and suicide.
 accidentally drowned, 2 were suffocated during epileptic fits, 1 by upsetting a lamp, 1 was kicked by a horse, a child was burnt, a child of three months was "overlaid," an old woman was killed by falling downstairs, a young woman by falling from a bicycle, a man by falling from the cliff at Freshwater, 1 by being caught in the shafting of brick-making machinery, 1 man accidentally shot himself during revolver practice, and a child accidentally shot himself

whilst playing with a toy rifle at Newbridge. Of the 2 cases of suicide, one, a prisoner in Parkhurst Prison, hung himself in his cell, and the other, a young man of Portsmouth, drowned himself off Bembridge.

In 1906, 4.4 per cent. of the deaths were due to violence, and 0.65 per 1,000 of the population. The mean of the deaths from violence in the ten years 1896-1905 was 3.0 per cent. of the deaths and 0.44 per 1,000 of the population. In England and Wales the deaths of 0.57 per 1,000 of the population were referred to different forms of violence in 1906.

Mortality
from certain
diseases
Epidemic
diseases.

The deaths from epidemic diseases included :—

1 attributed to scarlet fever		
1	„	whooping-cough
2	„	diphtheria
2	„	enteric fever
—		
6		

Epidemic
death-rate.

The 6 deaths attributed to the different forms of epidemic diseases were equal to a death-rate of 0.20 per 1,000 of the population, and to 1.47 per cent. of the deaths. The epidemic death-rate of the previous ten years was 0.34, 0.75, 1.04, 0.90, 0.94, 0.82, 0.86, 0.70, 0.77, and 0.87 respectively.

The mean epidemic death-rate in the Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary District in the ten years 1896-1905 was equal to 0.69 per 1,000 of the population. The epidemic death-rate in England and Wales in 1906 was 1.73 per 1,000 living, against 1.46, 1.94, and 1.52 respectively in the three preceding years, but excluding 218 larger towns it was 1.18 per 1,000. The epidemic death-rate in your District

in 1906 was 1.53 below that of the country generally, and excluding 218 large towns 0.98 below it.

18 permanent residents in your District died of phthisis ^{Phthisis.} in 1906, of whom 1 died in the Asylum and 2 in the Workhouse. In addition, 23 persons, who were strangers to the Island, or, being Islanders, were strangers to the District, also died of consumption within it; 2 from Island towns in the Workhouse, 17 in the Consumption Hospital at St. Lawrence, all strangers to the Island, as were 1 at Totland Bay, 1 at Knighton, 1 at Bembridge, whilst a Newport resident died at Newchurch of the disease. The death-rate from phthisis was 1.40 per 1,000 living; or, deducting the deaths among strangers, 0.61 per 1,000 of the normal population of your District. Excluding the deaths among strangers from "over the water" only, it was 0.68 per 1,000 of the population of the District. The percentage of deaths from phthisis to all the deaths was 10.0, or, deducting strangers, 4.0.

42 persons died of different diseases of the respiratory ^{Lung} organs, 9 of whom were under five years of age and 6 of ^{diseases.} whom did not belong to the District. These deaths are equivalent to 1.4 per 1,000 of the population and to 10 per cent. of the deaths.

Heart disease was the cause of death in 35 persons, 6 of ^{Heart} whom did not belong to the District. The deaths from ^{disease.} heart disease were equal to a rate of 1.2 per 1,000 and to a percentage of 8.6 of the deaths.

42 persons died of cancer, of whom 9 did not belong to the ^{Cancer.} District. This is equal to a rate of 1.4 per 1,000 living and to 10 per cent. of the deaths.

Tubercular
diseases
other than
Phthisis.

13 cases of tubercular diseases other than pulmonary phthisis were registered among the deaths, 2 of which did not belong to the District. 4 occurred under one year of age, 2 between one and five, 1 between fifteen and twenty-five, 4 between twenty-five and sixty-five, and 2 above sixty-five. These were equivalent to 0.44 per 1,000 of the population and 3.2 per cent. of the deaths.

Notified
diseases.

69 cases of notifiable diseases were notified during the year. They were equivalent to 2.3 per 1,000 of the population. They included 19 cases of diphtheria, 5 of erysipelas, 37 of scarlet fever, and 7 of enteric fever. A case of anthrax was also notified. 7 cases of diphtheria and 3 of scarlet fever which were not notified came to my knowledge. Adding these, the epidemic rate of the notifiable diseases is raised to 2.7 per 1,000. Many other notifications of epidemic diseases were received, more particularly of measles, whooping cough, and chicken pox.

In my last Annual Report I directed your attention to the low birth-rate which characterises your District and pointed out that corrections were necessary. It is very difficult to make these, especially as I have no means of ascertaining the marriage rate in the Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary District. Although there may be some difficulty in supplying the returns, as many of the rural marriages take place in the towns of the Island, they are worth a little trouble, seeing that the subject of the diminishing birth-rate is very important both from the national and the local point of view, and that it is most desirable all the information bearing upon the question should be ascertained with as great accuracy as possible.

I wish to place on record my appreciation of the courtesy of the Registrar and Sub-registrars. The information

demanding from the Medical Officer of Health increases, and some of it can only be supplied with the assistance of the Sub-registrars. For example, the Medical Officer of Health is now instructed to report if the children dying under one year of age were legitimate or illegitimate. He must report, too, on the deaths of "residents" in the District. In order to do this, the deaths of "strangers" should be specially marked in the returns as is done by some of the Sub-registrars. Having regard to the large number of visitors to your District, the deaths among "strangers" must be greater than their death returns indicate. Doubtless there are often difficulties in supplying full information, as when, for example, the home address of a person dying in a public institution is unknown, as was the case during the year under review.

In my Annual Report for 1902, p.p. 14-15, I gave certain statistics of your District contained in the corrected census returns of 1901, relating to houses, Military Barracks and Forts, Workhouse, Asylum, Prison, and Hospitals, which have proved useful for reference. Other statistics.

The table of area and population of parishes, their gross rental and rateable values, and the approximate yield of a penny rate in each of them, corrected to the end of the year by your Clerk, will, I trust, also prove useful for reference. Population of parishes and their value for rating purposes.

Parishes.	Area in Statute acres Land and Inland Water.	Population.		Number of Assessments.	Gross Estimated Rental.	Ratable Value Buildings, etc.	Ratable Value Agricultural Land.	Assessable value for General Purposes.	Assessable value for Special Purposes.	1d. rate for Special Purposes estimated by Overseers to produce
		1891.	1901.			£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
Asley	3365	1587	1621	485	10125	5672	2864	7104	5795	20 10 0
Bembridge	2000	1024	1127	479	12138	8794	1082	9335	8668	34 2 0
Binstead	1206	961	851	263	5559	3863	792	4259	3884	14 10 0
Bonchurch	565	638	539	147	6130	4687	228	4801	4910	18 2 6
Brading	5524	1704	1732	662	17169	9866	4590	12161	5945	22 5 0
Brightstone	2847	528	493	151	3389	1824	1144	2396	1803	7 10 3
Brooke	991	250	221	69	1597	765	640	1085	819	3 8 3
Calbourne	6550	830	747	317	5593	2709	2134	3776	2852	11 17 8
Carisbrooke	7857	3543	3993	766	23431	13893	5722	16754	15122	60 0 0
Chale	2220	607	543	208	4272	1986	1706	2839	2257	9 8 1
Freshwater	3528	2652	3306	937	20324	14366	2182	15457	14282	54 3 8
Gatecombe	2804	435	407	143	3478	1501	1584	2296	1632	6 16 0
Godshill	6407	1037	906	449	11062	3001	6892	6447	7245	18 6 2
Kingston	961	68	68	22	1013	204	636	612	284	1 3 8
Mottistone	1097	128	122	44	1137	432	590	727	482	2 0 2
Newchurch	2060	740	711	312	6877	3270	2624	4582	2807	11 13 11
Niton	1334	931	884	338	6813	4070	1650	4895	1870	18 3 2
North Arretton	3507	840	881	395	6738	3485	2132	4551	3528	13 15 0
Northwood	4335	1783	2016	672	12995	7804	2898	9253	7379	29 0 0
St. Lawrence	328	318	361	49	3078	2230	266	2363	2030	8 9 0
Shalfleet	5326	887	798	357	6091	2941	2158	4020	3027	12 12 3
Shorwell	3850	586	533	177	4806	1831	2464	3063	4252	8 19 5
South Arretton	5305	907	897	390	11595	4198	5714	7055	4578	17 10 0
Thorley	1582	177	129	59	1722	676	818	1085	625	2 12 0
Tolland	1332	790	1328	519	12267	9434	482	9675	9423	35 0 0
Whippingham	4611	801	855	301	12025	7187	2796	8585	10426	31 6 0
Whitwell	1910	653	633	232	5907	3258	1758	4137	3349	13 0 0
Wroxall	1661	786	775	328	7183	4609	1578	5398	3626	12 0 0
Yarmouth	58	903	948	321	5228	4064	110	4119	4041	16 16 8
Yaverland	823	94	131	33	1296	649	498	898	644	2 13 7
	86844	27188	28559	9628	231328	133362	60732	163728	137585	£517 14 5

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTI- TUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-resi- dents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Resi- dents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number	Rate*	Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.					Number	Rate*
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births regd.	Number	Rate*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1896	28,466	707	24.8	54	76	385	13.5	89	65		320	11.2
1897	28,275	686	24.2	58	79	375	13.2	89	73		302	10.6
1898	28,750	605	21.0	61	100	421	14.6	96	76		345	12.0
1899	28,920	619	20.7	57	92	440	15.2	98	76		364	12.5
1900	29,000	642	20.1	41	63	460	17.5	104	83		377	13.0
1901	28,600	639	22.1	53	84	450	15.7	99	85		365	12.8
1902	28,692	631	21.9	42	67	433	15.0	81	63	10	380	13.2
1903	28,827	565	19.5	47	84	438	15.1	101	83	9	364	12.6
1904	28,963	625	21.5	50	80	429	14.8	103	81	9	357	12.0
1905	29,052	633	21.8	44	69	424	14.5	107	81	7	332	11.4
Aver- ges for yrs. 1896 -1905.	28,754	635	21.7	50	79	465	14.9	96	76	8	350	12.1
1906	29,148	573	19.6	49	85	406	13.8	101	68	10	348	11.9

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total population at all ages ...	28,599	} At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses ...	5,952	
Average number of persons per house	4.30	

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) ... 86,754 acres.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District :—Isle of Wight Union Workhouse, Parkhurst ; Isle of Wight Lunatic Asylum, Whitecroft ; Royal National Hospital for Consumption, St. Lawrence ; Sandown and Shanklin Isolation Hospital, near Apse Heath.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District :—Royal Isle of Wight Infirmary and County Hospital, Ryde ; Undercliff Isolation Hospital, Ventnor.

The Union Workhouse is within the District.

TABLE II.
Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1906 and previous years.

Names of Localities.	ISLE of WIGHT RURAL DISTRICT.				NEWPORT REG. SUB-DISTRICT.				COWES REG. SUB-DISTRICT.				RYDE REG. SUB-DISTRICT.				BRADING REG. SUB-DISTRICT.				GOSHILL REG. SUB-DISTRICT.				CALBOURNE REG. SUB-DISTRICT.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Year.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1896	28,600	639	450	53	5594	109	124	5	3470	81	45	6	2475	52	32	5	3089	72	53	5	5248	104	81	6	8024	212	125	26
1897	28,692	631	380	42	5620	125	76	9	3480	86	36	4	2480	51	28	3	3716	69	56	6	5257	96	75	5	8139	204	109	15
1898	28,827	565	364	47	5648	114	80	10	3500	83	38	8	2488	36	36	3	3732	66	54	5	5276	85	62	4	8183	181	92	17
1899	28,963	625	357	50	5674	124	70	16	3506	84	38	3	2495	56	27	4	3749	73	38	2	5292	103	72	11	8247	185	112	14
1900	29,052	632	424	44	5700	125	68	12	3500	92	29	4	2500	53	26	2	3766	83	45	4	5282	89	81	9	8304	91	82	13
Averages of Years 1896 to 1905.	28,828	618	395	49	5647	119	83	10	3506	85	37	5	2487	45	29	3	3730	72	49	4	5271	95	74	7	8179	174	104	17
1906	29,148	573	348	49	5720	108	142	8	3506	75	47	14	2505	49	23	3	3784	71	47	7	5303	96	65	7	8330	171	82	10

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1906.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.							NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.						
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Under 1	1 to 5	5-15	15-25	25-65														
						65 and upwards														
Small-pox																			
Cholera																			
Diphtheria	19	5	13	1		19	1	5	1	6		6							
Membranous Croup																			
Erysipelas	5				5	5	1		1	2		1							
Scarlet fever	37	19	24	2	1	37	1	1	1	16	14	4	10						10
Typhus fever																			
Enteric fever	7		1	1	5	7		2		3		2							
Relapsing fever																			
Continued fever																			
Puerperal fever																			
Plague																			
Anthrax	1				1	1											1		
Total	69	15	38	4	12	69	3	9	3	27	14	13	11		1				10

Isolation Hospital—The Undercliff Isolation Hospital at Ventnor.
five Rural Parishes.

The Hospital District includes

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.								DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO LOCALITIES (AT ALL AGES).						TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT. 16
	All ages. 1 year														
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
1															
Small-pox ..															
Measles ..															
Scarlet Fever ..	1			1				1				1			
Whooping-cough ..	1			1				1				1			
Diphtheria and membranous croup ..	2	1	1					2		1				1	
Croup ..	1	1						1		1					
Typhus															
Fever - Enteric ..	2					2		2		1				1	
Other continued															
Epidemic influenza ..															
Cholera ..															
Plague ..															
Diarrhoea ..															
Enteritis ..	6	4			1	1		6	1	3		2			
Puerperal Fever ..															
Erysipelas ..															
Other septic diseases ..															
Phthisis ..	22			1	3	17	1	22	9	3	2	2	3	3	
Other tubercular diseases ..	11	4	2		1	3	1	11	3	2	1	3	0	2	
Cancer, malignant disease ..	34					21	13	34	7	6	3	5	4	9	
Bronchitis ..	12	2	1			1	8	12	3	1	1	1	4	2	
Pneumonia ..	23	4	1			7	11	23	4	3	3	4	3	6	
Pleurisy ..	1					1		1						1	
Other diseases of respiratory organs ..	3	1				1	1	3		1			1	1	
Alcoholism															
Cirrhosis of liver }	5					5		5				2		3	
Veneral diseases ..															
Premature birth ..	12	12						12	2	4	1			5	
Diseases and accidents of parturition ..	6					6		6		2		2	1	1	
Heart diseases ..	32			1	1	13	17	32	7	2	3	7	8	5	
Accidents ..	16	2	1	2	3	7	1	16	7	1		2	2	4	
Suicides ..	2				2			2	1			1			
All other causes ..	156	19	3	2	4	45	83	156	48	16	9	14	24	45	
All causes ..	348	50	9	8	15	130	136	348	92	47	23	47	50	89	

TABLE V.
Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	Certified ..	17	2	2	2	21	6	1	5	1	4	4				2	2	46
	Uncertified ..	1				1	1	1										3
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox ..																	
	Chicken-pox ..																	
	Measles ..																	
	Scarlet Fever ..																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Diphtheria : Croup ..								1									1
	Whooping Cough ..																	
	Diarrhoea, all forms ..												1					3
	Enteritis (not Tuberculous)								2									1
Wasting Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh }						1											1
	Premature Birth ..	10				10	2											12
	Congenital Defects ..						1		1									2
	Injury at Birth ..																	
Tuberculous	Want of Breast-milk ..											1						1
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus }	3	1	2	6	1												7
	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica }						1											1
Other Tuberculous Diseases }	Other Tuberculous Diseases }											2						2
	Erysipelas ..																	
	Syphilis ..																	
	Rickets ..																	
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)															1		1
	Convulsions ..	3	1	4		4	1				1	1						7
	Bronchitis ..												1					2
	Laryngitis ..						1											1
Other Causes	Pneumonia ..										1		1			1		4
	Suffocation, overlaying																	1
	Other Causes	2		2	2	2	1											3
		18	2	2	2	22	7	2	5	1	4	4				2	2	49

Births in the year { Legitimate ... 538
 { Illegitimate ... 35
 Deaths from all causes at all ages ... 406
 Population estimated to middle of 1905 ... 29,148.

I.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)			
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	113	Nil.	Nil.
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	22		
Total ...	135		

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecu- tions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>	32			
Want of cleanliness... ..	20			
Want of ventilation... ..				
Overcrowding	1			
Want of drainage of floors... ..				
Other nuisances	2			
Sanitary { insufficient	6			
Accommo- { unsuitable or defective	7			
dation { not separate for sexes				
Sec. 22, P.H.A. a.n. 1890, adopted 1891				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Work- shop Act:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary require- ments for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100).				
Other offences				
(Excluding offences relating to outworkers which are included in Part 3 of this Report).				
Total	36			

3.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year. (1)	Number. (2)
Bakeries	40
Smiths	27
Potteries	1
Builders, &c.	27
House Painters	5
Monumental Masons	1
Cabinet Makers	4
Coach Builders	1
Saddlers	3
Cycle Repairers	2
Watch Repairers	2
Shoe Repairers	7
Dressmakers	9
Tailors	4
Laundries	2
Total	135

4.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class. (1)	Number. (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	67
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Work- shop Act (s. 5)	Notified by H.M. In- spectors (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector
Other	Nil
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	Nil
Certificates granted during the year	Nil
In use at the end of the year	Nil

2. THE SANITARY HISTORY OF THE YEAR.

At the beginning of 1906 there were cases of minor epidemic disease scattered through the District, but, without exception, those belonging to the notifiable class were in the convalescent stage. Cases of DIPHTHERIA were convalescing in the Freshwater and Yarmouth district; there was a case of ENTERIC FEVER convalescing at Haylands; CHICKEN POX was present in the Chillerton, Whippingham, and Northwood sections; and WHOOPING COUGH prevailed at Bembridge, Brading, Haylands, and other parts of the Island. Epidemic diseases.

In the middle of January a case of DIPHTHERIA at Haylands was notified, and at the end of the month there were two cases in the same house at Yarmouth. On February 11th there was a mild case of the disease at Shalcombe Cottages, and a few days later a family were affected at Horsebridge Hill. Early in March there was an outbreak in a family at Gunville, and towards the end of the month a case was notified at Alma Place, Yarmouth. In April there were cases at Adgestone, and in June a case at Bembridge was moved to Haylands. In July a case at Staplers was notified, and in August a family of five had the disease one after the other at Horsebridge Hill. In September there were two or three cases in a house on the Mall, Brading, and in November a case was notified at Whippingham. In December two cases were notified at Bembridge, and two cases in a family, one of whom died, at Totland.

Five cases of ERYSIPELAS were notified in the course of the year at Haylands, Downend, Totland Bay, Brading, and Bembridge respectively, in the months of April, May, September, October, and November respectively.

In April warders' children at Parkhurst Prison, attending the Hunnyhill School, one of the border schools, had sore throat, others were noticed to have rough skins, having suffered a day or two previously from slight Malaise. On May 19th definite cases of SCARLET FEVER were notified. In September there was a case at Gurnard imported from Sussex. In May there was a case at East Ashey. In January two or three cases at Wroxall were notified, the first case having apparently contracted the disease in an urban district. In May there were one or two other cases. In the same month there was a case in Niton, the patient being a journeyman who had worked with men from an urban district during the previous week, at Wroxall. In August there was another case, and in September another who was in contact with a visitor from the mainland, the skin of whose hands was desquamating. These three local cases were sent to the Undercliff Isolation Hospital at Ventnor. In October there were two cases at the Coast-guard Station at Blackgang. In September there was a case of Scarlet Fever at Bonchurch, and in October there was another case, and one at Luceombe. There were also two cases in the house from which the case was sent in September, apparently after his return home. A further case occurred at Bonchurch in November. There was a fatal case of Scarlet Fever at Brading in June. There were two cases in one family in September, and two others in the same row of cottages, and four others in the same month. In November there was a case at Adgestone, and one at Brading. There were two other cases notified at Adgestone in December, and three at Brading. There

were two or three cases at Bembridge in one family in September. A case was notified at London Heath in October. In January there was a case notified at Yarmouth, and one in July at Totland Bay. At the beginning of August two young ladies developed Scarlet Fever immediately after returning home in Essex from Totland Bay.

In January a doubtful case of ENTERIC FEVER occurred at Bowcombe, and in May a case at Furzeyhurst, Northwood, was notified and in July a case at Osborne House, the disease having been contracted at Lagos or Gibraltar. In February a case at Bembridge was notified, another in October, and another in November. These cases were attributed to eating oysters. In January a lady arrived at Freshwater with Enteric Fever and died, and in October a case occurred at Yarmouth, which was attributed to flies from a slaughter-house infecting food.

In July a case of ANTHRAX at Somerton Cottages, Northwood, was notified. It was apparently contracted at Cowes, and was sent immediately to the isolation section of the hospital at East Cowes. The case quickly recovered, I believe. There were cases of suspected Anthrax among pigs, but the diagnosis was not confirmed by bacteriological examination. One of these was at a farm in the Brading district, where the flesh of a dead cow brought from Haylands was eaten by pigs after it had been thoroughly boiled. The cow stable and its surroundings, in which it had been milked, was one of the filthiest it has been my lot to inspect, even in the immediate neighbourhood of towns, which is saying a great deal. Anthrax was present in Hampshire at the time, and the Isle of Wight officials were very properly especially vigilant.

In March a notification was received from the Plymouth Port Sanitary Medical Officer that passengers from Australia by a plague-infected ship had gone to Freshwater. They were kept under observation for a time. In May the Medical Officer of Health of Bristol notified contact with a case of Small-Pox by a resident of Brading while on a visit to Bristol. He was kept under observation for the usual period.

1904 and 1905 were characterised by an epidemic of MEASLES which affected every section of your District. In 1906 there were only isolated cases at Thorness, Freshwater, Southford, by Whitwell, and Ashley ; but at Osborne College there was an outbreak in May and June of Measles and Rotheln, or German Measles. Chicken Pox was the most widely distributed of the non-notifiable diseases. It was epidemic in the Carisbrooke, Godshill, Shorwell, Whitwell, Wroxall, Newchurch, Brading, Arreton, Binstead, Wootton, Whippingham, Northwood, Calbourne, and other parishes, and at Osborne College.

MUMPS was almost equally widely distributed, as was Whooping Cough.

Among the Public Elementary Schools which were closed during the year on account of the prevalence of epidemic disease, were those at Arreton, Godshill, Brading, Bembridge, Haylands, Niton, Whitwell, Wroxall, Chillerton, Carisbrooke, Northwood, Lock's Green, Calbourne, Thorley, Freshwater, Shorwell, etc.

Notification
of cases of
epidemic
disease.

During the year 1906, as in recent years the statutory obligation on medical practitioners and the heads of families to notify the existence of the more serious forms of epidemic disease has been supplemented by the orders of the County

Education Committee to the Head Teachers of the Public Elementary Schools to notify the Medical Officer of Health all cases of epidemic disease which may occur among the pupils under their charge. In a large number of instances these directions are complied with, and I received 249 such notifications. To the School Attendance Officers, also, I am much indebted for information of the existence of epidemic diseases which are not of the notifiable order. My acknowledgments are also due to the Fleet Surgeon in charge at Osborne College for his great kindness in notifying me regularly all cases which occur in that institution. But for these aids I should often be ignorant of the presence of a spreading disorder until attendances at the schools were beginning to fall off.

The subject of isolation of cases of epidemic disease has Isolation.
engaged the attention of the Isle of Wight Rural Sanitary Authority. In my first Annual Report (for 1883), p. 29, I dwelt upon the subject, and have done so each year since. I beg again to refer you to my remarks in the Annual Report for 1904, pp. 24-25, and in that for 1905, p. 26.

After urging persistently the importance of providing Isolation
Hospital.
means of isolating cases of infectious disease from 1883 to 1886 I was instructed to hire a tent for that purpose, and eventually one was purchased. In 1887 I reported that I considered an Isolation Hospital a sanitary necessity in your District.

This opinion was endorsed by a special resolution of the Authority, and it was determined that "further provision of a more permanent character" than the tent should be made for the isolation of cases of infectious disease. A committee appointed to report upon the question considered that such provision could be made at a cost of not

less than £2,000, a sum which was apparently regarded as prohibitive for a rural district. Negotiations were entered into with Newport and other towns with a view to providing a joint hospital, but they came to nothing, and the subject was practically in abeyance for a year or two. It was usually revived by the report of the Committee appointed to consider my Annual Report, however, and in 1892 the County Council recently established in the Isle of Wight ventured to report on my Annual Report, in a gentle and tentative sort of way, in obedience to their statutory obligations :—

“No means of isolating cases of infectious diseases are provided by the Authority. The Authority is probably one of the most important Rural Authorities in England. It is a matter for surprise that no such provision has hitherto been made.”

Having ventured so far, the County Council have not further interfered, save to sanction the results of your renewed negotiations with the urban authorities for the purpose of establishing joint hospitals. It is so difficult to speak calmly on the subject that I will content myself with reminding you the results were the appropriation of the rateable value for isolating purposes of five of your parishes, notwithstanding your strong opposition. The outcome of the indignation felt throughout your District was the manifestation for the time being of a spirit of independence and self reliance, which resulted in the choice of a site in the most suitable position and the preparation of plans for a hospital. The usual methods of opposition had failed and sanction was only withheld pending the passing a resolution required by the Local Government Board that Small Pox should not be isolated in the proposed hospital. The resolution was defeated. Within the past few years the

proposal to provide an Isolation Hospital for your District has been revived; another and better site, adjoining the former one, was selected by your committee, and the scheme is before you. During the year under review you have, as of old, visited the same impossible alternative sites, and in the future you will, I fear, meet with the methods of delay and opposition with which you are familiar. In the meantime the poor, in whose welfare you are ostensibly so greatly interested as Guardians, are suffering disability and hardship, and are incurring even greater risks than they did twenty years ago, for your predecessors did possess an isolation tent for use in extreme emergency.

Referring to the remarks on pp. 27 of my last Annual Report on the subjects of Small Pox and vaccination, I still think the Medical Officer of Health should receive each year a return of vaccinations, the number successfully vaccinated, and the numbers exempted from vaccination under the Act and by medical certificate, particularly in a district possessing no facilities for isolating cases of Small Pox. Sanitary Authorities should know approximately how many unprotected persons there are amongst the population supposed to be under their sanitary charge and protection. I beg to refer you to my report for 1904, pp. 26-27.

The isolation of Phthisis is practically impossible, but the Sanitary Authorities should have charge of Institutions in which those suffering from Phthisis should be taught how to live and how to avoid infecting others. During the year under review I was invited to meet the Committee of a hospital in your District in which such instruction is conveyed, with reference to the milk supply. I beg to refer you to my remarks on pp. 27 and 28 of my Annual Report for 1903.

Disinfection. At the beginning of a case of epidemic disease, as of Diphtheria or Scarlatina, the Inspector calls at the house and leaves disinfectants and a book of directions. At the end of six weeks he disinfects with sulphurous acid gas unless there are reasons for delay. This somewhat arbitrary period of six weeks was arrived at as a sort of compromise. As opinions varied so much, it was thought better to relieve the medical attendant of all responsibility in the matter and permit it to rest wholly with the Sanitary Authority, to whom it strictly belongs. The importance of adhering to rule was illustrated in a case last year, in which it was relaxed under special circumstances with the approval of the medical attendant. Since then frequent applications have been made for relaxation of the rule in other cases, both by the friends and medical men who have been in attendance. Of course the disinfectants have been supplied gratuitously in every instance, as heretofore, and the Inspectors have followed their instructions to disinfect at the end of each case, even though disinfection has been already done by a nurse or other person. The responsibility is with the Sanitary Authority.

Disinfection after Phthisis and other catching disorders. From time to time I have dwelt upon the subject of disinfection after Phthisis and other non-notifiable diseases in my Annual Reports. It is very difficult to discover cases which are not notified to the Medical Officer of Health, and with your small staff of Inspectors the disinfection could not take place if there were notification; but disinfection is always done when it is asked for, and before the re-opening of schools which have been closed because of epidemic disease.

Spread of epidemic diseases in Schools and closure of Schools by the Sanitary Authority. In no year, probably, have more schools been closed in your District on account of the presence of epidemic diseases than in 1907. It is very pleasant to work so amicably on your behalf with the Education Committee of the County Council and their officers in all matters, and especially in

relation to the closing of the Public Elementary Schools when necessary. The object is often defeated by keeping open the Sunday Schools. It is, of course, well known that the Day Schools are closed, and the object of closing them is recognised, and yet the children are taken to places of worship, to the Sabbath Schools, and to School "treats." These remarks, so far as Sunday Schools are concerned do not apply in connection with the "Non-provided" Schools.

You have scavenged Bembridge, Brading, Bonchurch, Scavenging, Totland, Freshwater, Yarmouth, and Carisbrooke during the year as before. As I have frequently advised you, there are others of the more populous places which ought to be scavenged, and especially Wroxall and Niton. Years ago it was decided at a public meeting of the parishioners to recommend you to scavenge Wroxall. When the subject came before you the request was made and granted that you should not commence the work for another six months. The six months has extended to more than six years. Both Niton and Wroxall require sewerage as do other villages, but Niton has no water supply, and that of Wroxall is remunerative. It is your duty to scavenge and to sewer when necessary, and it is generally wise to commence with scavenging.

In referring to the permanent works of water supply and sewerage which serve to counterbalance defects and short-comings in administration, I beg to quote the remarks which appeared in my last Annual Report :—"For many years now, in writing my Annual Report and describing defects and weaknesses of administration which need not have been, and pointing to circumstances which, in the name of economy, denied to the people the full effects of the sanitary benefits which are their right under the law, I

Water supply and sewerage.

have realised that the compensation was in being able to place on record the completion or initiation or progress of some permanent work of water supply or sewerage which would minister, not only to the sanitary well-being of the population of to-day, but also to the protection and comfort of their descendants in the years which are to be.

Water
supply.

“The Isle of Wight is insular, both geographically and in sentiment, and this sentiment of insularity extends to the various localities. Consequently it is only here and there you have succeeded in combining parishes for their common benefit. On this account your water supplies have cost more than they need have done, notwithstanding the outlay has been as nothing to the return received, and already, in some parishes, the water rents more than balance the charges. The opposition to your performance of your duty under the law in this matter has seemed almost incredible, but the fact that no parish which has received it would forego its water supply, should encourage you to continue to persevere.”

Bembridge
water
supply.

The Bembridge water main was extended wherever necessary during the year.

Brading
water
supply.

By extension of the Isle of Wight Water Company's main to Brading, the Company after long years having availed themselves of their statutory powers, another section of your District is cut off from the possibility of owning its water supply. The Rural District Council and their predecessors are to blame, but the fault really lies with the people who tamely submitted, or worse, to their ancient port being converted into an inland town. Brading, however, after all the storms and stress of the past, has now an excellent supply of water from the Upper Greensand at Apse.

A small hamlet to the north-east of Brading, known as ^{Carpenters} Carpenters, you have decided to supply with water from ^{water} springs in the neighbourhood, as their powers under the Act to supply Carpenters are not of sufficient commercial value to induce the Isle of Wight Water Works Company to avail themselves of them.

You resolved to supply Arreton with water some years ago. ^{Wootton} During the past year you have continued to consider ^{water} three propositions : To obtain the necessary water from the Newport Corporation, or from the owner of the Apse Heath supply from the Upper Greensand, or from the Upper Greensand at Arreton itself. You are still awaiting definite replies to your enquiries.

You resolved to extend your main at Wootton to the ^{Arreton} area supplied from the surface gravel beds. You were ^{water} hindered from taking action because Whippingham and North Arreton, or Wootton, had not been formally combined for purposes of water supply. This has been done and you are now about to extend the main throughout Wootton as you proposed.

The dispute with the Corporation of Newport with ^{Whipping-} reference to the price of the water supplied to Whippingham ^{ham water} remained unsettled at the end of 1906. The price was ^{supply.} adjusted on the basis that Newport paid a royalty of two-pence per 1,000 gallons to the owner of the surface soil from beneath which the water flows. The agreement between the Corporation and the landowner was not examined, apparently, until after the contract had been entered into, and it was then discovered that the water supplied to Whippingham paid no royalty. A reasonable arrangement would seem to be that the royalty should be paid on one-third of the consumption of the combined parishes. These

disputes between the urban and rural authorities militate against the well-being of the urban and rural communities.

Calbourne
water
supply.

The supply of Calbourne from the Chalk was carried out in 1906, but although the connections have been made to a large extent, you have not taken over the works from the contractor pending their completion to your satisfaction. You have received another lesson of the undesirability of delegating to parishes duties for which you are alone responsible.

Shalfleet
water
supply.

You have extended the Shalfleet water main to Hampstead, supplying dairy places *en route*. The dispute between the owner of Crammore Farm and Building Estate continues.

Thorley
water
supply.

The Shalfleet water main has been extended to Thorley. Your insistence in the performance of your duty has been amply justified, not only by the proof last summer of the inadequacy of the proposed alternative source of supply, but by the overwhelming support given by the chemical analyses you produced with your orders to lay on the water, of your contention that an independent water supply for Thorley was absolutely necessary. The vindictive treatment meted out to those who so conscientiously carried out their duties to their constituents is a serious reflection on our boasted local self-government.

Limerstone
water
supply.

When, after searching for water at Limerstone to supply Shorwell, you decided there was insufficient, and reluctantly abandoned the hope of a gravitation scheme, you determined to supply the hamlet of Limerstone itself, and have carried out the work.

Shorwell
water
supply.

Notwithstanding the protest of the Shorwell Parochial Committee that an independent water supply was not

necessary to Shorwell, opinion would seem to have changed in presence of your persistence. It is surprising that a body of men supposed to represent the needs and opinions of the ratepayers could have felt justified in framing such a resolution, when evidence of the necessity was always before them. For years the complaints of the people to your officers have emphasised the results of their observations. What could be done has been done to minimise the evils which obtain, but at the best the means used could only be palliative. Quite apart from the paramount consideration of the interests of the public health, the advantages of an independent water supply are so obvious. To the owners of property it is a simple method of increasing its value at a comparatively small annual charge for thirty years ; to the agriculturist it affords abundant water for dairying purposes, and pure water for the cows to drink, great economy of labour, and ready assistance should fire occur ; and to the cottager an amelioration of the conditions of life. Women of other classes in the country seldom try to realise the laborious lives of the women in the cottage homes : the washing and cooking for a large family, perhaps, the making and mending, the scrubbing and cleansing of the house. It makes all the difference to one pair of hands if water can be drawn from a tap instead of being " fetched " from a distance, or raised from a well by hand, or even pumped.

You considered the advisability of supplying Shorwell with water from Chillerton, which would be quite feasible ; but the Parochial Committee requested you to obtain it within the parish. The principal landowner has now permitted you to search for it on her property at a point from which it would be pumped to a large reservoir placed at an elevation sufficiently high to command every house in the parish, and from which Cheverton Farm

and cottages might be supplied. The results so far are promising.

Niton water
supply.

You have continued your search for sufficient water at the site at Downcourt selected by the Parochial Committee for a gravitation supply, under the direction of the Engineer chosen by them. The water has been gauged over a considerable period, and the results have been submitted to the Central Authority, who have expressed a doubt about the sufficiency of the supply. You are about to reconsider the whole question.

Godshill
water
supply.

At one time it seemed likely you would be able to supply Godshill with water very easily from the Upper Greensand south of it; but there were the usual delays, and the ownership of the land changed two or three times. During the year under review, the agent of the latest proprietor submitted to you impossible conditions, and the matter is now in abeyance. It seems almost incredible that fair terms might not easily be arranged. The person who would benefit most would be the landowner, whose house and farm buildings would probably be supplied without expense to him, and whose property must be greatly increased in value without the expenditure of a penny. You have considered other means of supplying Godshill, one of which would be from the main by which it is proposed to carry water from Chillerton to Shanklin. Your experience has taught you, however, that it is unwise to have anything to do with another authority in such an important matter as water supply. You have, indeed, adopted the principle that, if possible, all water supplies must be owned by those who are dependent upon them. I dwelt fully upon this subject in my last Annual Report, pp. 36—37.

No progress was made during the year towards realising ^{Chillerton and} your desire to supply Chillerton and Gatcombe with the ^{Gatcombe} water it possesses so abundantly, but which is not available ^{water} to the population of those villages. I beg to refer you to ^{supply.} my Annual Report for 1905, pp. 37-38, and to previous Annual Reports, for further remarks upon the much needed supply of water to Chillerton and Gatcombe.

The Corporation of Newport have supplied Carisbrooke ^{Carisbrooke} with water and collected the water rents, but when you, in ^{water} obedience to your obligations, have requested them to ^{supply.} supply certain areas which did not promise to be immediately remunerative, they have demurred. You guaranteed them 10 per cent. on the outlay for a certain period before they would lay a main in Castle Street, and they positively refused to lay on water to Miller's Lane, pleading they are not permitted by the Central Authority to lay mains in another Authority's District. But they have been acting as a water company in Carisbrooke for years, and it is not until they have to deal with a barren area that they appeal to the Local Government Board. It is unfortunate they did not make the appeal before they took up highly profitable districts. If their position is illegal, they should transfer their undertaking to you. This they decline to do, and it will be a question for you to decide whether or not it is your duty to provide your own waterworks for the supply of Carisbrooke.

During the year you extended several of your sewers, ^{Sewers.} but you initiated no new system. You did not visit rural places on the mainland which are sewered, as you proposed to do. I beg to refer you to my Annual Reports for 1902, pp. 45-46 ; 1903, p. 42 ; 1904, p. 40 ; 1905, p. 39, upon this subject.

Binstead
sewer.

The extension of your sewer in Newnham Road, which is now completed, at Binstead has stimulated building operations and has increased the rateable value.

Wootton
sewer.

You have decided to lay a sewer in the Palmer's Road, at Wootton, and have sanctioned the improvement and extension of the outfall to below low water of the Red Road sewer. This will be very satisfactory and will help to diminish the sewage nuisance in Wootton Creek.

Staplers
sewer.

You have decided to extend the Staplers sewer to the top of the hill, which will be the means of abolishing cesspit drainage, and the nuisances which have arisen therefrom for a long series of years in that district.

Carisbrooke
sewer.

You have made considerable extensions of the Carisbrooke sewer in Clatterford Road, Alvington Shute, Spring Vale, and Priory Farm, and you have decided to extend the sewer up the Cemetery Hill to the Convent, a long-needed improvement, the effect of which will be to remedy a nuisance which can be removed in no other way, and to stop, so far, the pollution of the Froglands branch of the Lukely stream.

Parkhurst
sewer.

You have also extended the Parkhurst sewer in the Hunnyhill District of the parish of Carisbrooke, and by doing so you have abated a nuisance on the borders of the Borough of Newport, of which the Corporation have complained.

Gurnard
sewer.

You have carried out a very desirable extension of the Gurnard sewer during the year.

Totland
sewer.

As in most recent years, you have extended the Totland sewer to provide for the drainage of new houses, or of houses which were previously at too great a distance from the then existing sewer.

The work of making the house connections with the new Freshwater sewer at Freshwater has proceeded during the year, and most of the dwellings are now drained. Your Freshwater Committee have again expended a large amount of labour and care in their endeavour to unravel the tangle of accounts caused by your having to take over the completion of the sewer on account of the failure of the contractors. There are still adjustments to be made, but the end of the complicated business would appear to be in sight.

The lesson taught by the history of the Freshwater sewerage should never be forgotten, either by the people of your District, or by whatever authority may administer it in the future. You acted on the best possible advice, as your predecessors had done with reference to the sewerage of Carisbrooke, you chose your Engineer as they did, from the front rank of engineers of the day, and their plans, based upon the most modern and approved principles, were accepted. Then a few self-seeking men intrigued and plotted and agitated, and you yielded as regards Freshwater as you did as regards Carisbrooke. It was said the people who had to pay ought to be permitted to choose. Well, Freshwater, has to pay, but the sympathy they receive is no consolation. Carisbrooke has also had to pay, and will have to pay, but the payment has been by instalments, and is not recognised by the ordinary ratepayer. Sanitary engineering by clamour and public meeting is not likely to yield the best results, and in your District, when uninformed opinion has prevailed, the result has always been inefficiency and unnecessary expense.

In my last Annual Report I said, "The Housing of the Working Classes Act is not one of which you have hitherto had occasion to make use." In his admirable report, Dr. Bulstrode, speaking on this subject in reference to your

Housing
the
Working
Classes Act.

District, remarked, "Generally speaking, the housing of the poorer classes in the rural district is by no means so bad as that found in certain other rural districts with which I am acquainted, a circumstance which is no doubt due to the fact that the general condition of the working population in the rural districts is less influenced by poverty than is sometimes the case elsewhere. But, notwithstanding this, I am quite satisfied, in consequence of my inspection of many parts of the District, that the conditions of the labouring population would be very materially improved were their dwellings visited by the Sanitary Inspector more frequently and more systematically than is, I fear, the case under existing circumstances." He referred to leaky roofs and dampness of floors and ceilings as the most common nuisance he found with regard to the general conditions of housing.

Dr. Bulstrode's remarks would seem to confirm my view as expressed in my former Report ; and I entirely agree with him that the evils which exist in this matter would be almost entirely obviated by frequent and systematic inspection. Whenever you have ordered a from house to house inspection of a given area, as you have ordered at Wroxall at the present time, a large number of defects have been reported to you and remedied, usually without much difficulty. I am unable, however, to support the opinion that the housing of the poorer classes in your District is not so bad as elsewhere because the working population are better off. When I look back to the period immediately subsequent to Dr. Ballard's inspection and report, which were followed by important changes in the administration of the Rural District, I can have no doubt the enormous improvement in the housing of the working classes has been largely, if not entirely, due to these changes. Since sanitary inspection slackened you have carried out several

schemes of water supply, which have ameliorated the conditions of life of the poorer classes to a degree you do not yourselves realise.

One subject in connection with rural housing in your District has impressed me more and more during the past ten years: the increasing objection to employ men with large families, or to let houses to them. If this objection obtains on the mainland, it is probably one of the causes of the flow of the rural population to the town. You not infrequently have brought before you cases of overcrowding in cottages. These cases are got over without causing hardship for the most part; but you ought to know the number of rooms each house in your District contains, and especially those which have only one or two bedrooms, of which there are not a large number, I believe. A considerable part of your District has been so surveyed from time to time; but the information obtained is not available as it ought to be. I would suggest that you appoint a small Housing Committee to consider this and other matters appertaining to the housing question.

I had good hope last year you would at once carry out the very reasonable recommendations of so eminent and fair-minded a man as Dr. Bulstrode, quite apart from his renown as a sanitarian and his connection with the Central Authority, and I did not comment on his report. I still have this good hope, but under existing circumstances, Dr. Bulstrode's Report having been given to the world, and as great detriment will accrue to the Isle of Wight in consequence, I feel it incumbent upon me to refer to his remarks under (a) "House Drainage" and (b) "Sewerage and Drainage."

(a) There has evidently been some misunderstanding.

Dr. Bulstrode stated that he found in the case of many of the old houses the house drains are neither properly cut off from the sewers nor ventilated, and that this is true also where the connection of the house with the sewer has been recently made, and presumably under the byelaws of the District, and that this applies where the drainage is to a cesspool. He found instances in which the fresh air inlets to drains were blocked by an impervious stopper, and now and again the ventilating pipe was not carried up full bore to a sufficient height above the eaves.

I can only say that presumably the Inspectors know their work. They have had explained to them when necessary the reasons for the requirements upon which they have to insist ; and in hundreds of instances they have reported to me or reported in their books defects under each of the headings I have quoted, excepting that of the impervious stopper blocking a fresh air inlet. Contractors and workmen from the towns come into your District to do sanitary work, and they have been compelled, in innumerable instances, to do the work over again because they have not conformed to the byelaws and methods of your District. Necessarily, some escape notice in the absence of systematic inspection, but the great majority are remedied sooner or later. You have printed instructions for making house connections with sewers and cesspools, and the observance of these is absolutely insisted on. You employ Clerks of Works in connection with all your undertakings and appoint persons to superintend the making of connections with new sewers, as recently at Gurnard and Freshwater. It is rather unfortunate the parochial spirit is sometimes permitted to prevail in these matters. Dr. Bulstrode also spoke of overflowing cesspools, which is due to insufficient inspection. He was informed too, that "The byelaws providing for the ventilation of cesspools were not enforced in

the District." This information is absolutely incorrect. All your byelaws are enforced, and when difficulties arise the Inspectors come to me, which it is their duty to do. You cannot always insist upon the letter of a byelaw. Combined drainage, for example, is sometimes safer than separate drainage ; and where it is impossible to ventilate a cesspool without creating a nuisance it is not done ; but the intercepting trap, the fresh air inlet, and the 4in. ventilating pipe carried up full bore above the eaves have been insisted upon long before the time you possessed byelaws. In all new houses the ventilation of cesspools must be provided for. I now examine all the plans of new buildings before they go before you for approval, as you have relieved the Inspectors for the time being of this part of their duties and have appointed an assistant.

(b) Dr. Bulstrode reported your sewerage systems as discharging their contents "untreated" either into the sea or into tidal waters in proximity to the sea, with the exception of that of Brading. It should not be so, but in many instances sewerage had to be forced upon the parishes concerned, and any additional expense for "treatment" might have rendered the opposition insurmountable ; but the statement conveys a censure which uninformed people, and the large majority are uninformed, would interpret as dereliction of duty on your part. Every town in the Isle of Wight, with the exception of Newport, the sewage of which is discharged into the tidal water at the head of an estuary, and the great majority of the coast towns on the mainland discharge their sewage "untreated" into the sea, or into tidal waters "untreated." It was impossible for Dr. Bulstrode to do his duty and omit the fact. It is a most regrettable defect ; but when one looks back upon the enormous labour and anxiety involved in bringing about these great safeguards of the public health, one cannot help

being depressed and disappointed at the unhappy fate which has rendered them a reproach to you in the eyes of the world.

Report of
the Select
Committee
on the
Housing of
the Working
Classes
Amendment
Bill.

The Report to the Local Government Board on your District has come before the public, together with similar reports on other rural districts, in connection with the Proceedings and Report of the Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons to consider "The Housing of the Working Classes Amendment Bill."

This Report should receive your very serious attention. The housing question does not, in Dr. Bulstrode's view, affect your District so much as it does other rural districts. You have had byelaws for new buildings for many years, and these byelaws have been carried out by you, and you have applied for Urban powers for certain areas of your District when necessary, which have been granted with one very disappointing exception. I refer to the permission you requested to purchase the Bembridge Gas Works. It was refused, apparently, because there was no precedent. But it was a far-seeing application on your part, prompted by your desire to secure the future benefit of Bembridge, destined as it is to become an important town. It is advisable, however, that you should revise your byelaws and incorporate with them the rural model code of byelaws so far as they are applicable to your District, which is partly rural and partly urban.

. The Committee widened their enquiry so that it might embrace the conditions generally obtaining in rural districts, and the reasons for the diminution and stagnation of population in many of them. The evidence given and the conclusions arrived at do not apply justly to your District in many respects. I do not think you can be included

among these authorities "who have been entrusted with the carrying out of the Acts in rural districts have, generally speaking, deplorably failed to fulfil their obligations." In other respects they do apply to you. You do not, for example, consider the "primary duties" of the inspectors "should be to inspect every house and tenement in every parish."

The first recommendation of the Committee is the transfer of the administration of the Public Health and Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, from the Rural District Councils to the County Councils. That is to say, the giving of the control of the rural districts to the towns.

In the Isle of Wight, if the recommendation be carried into effect, the administration will be pretty much in the hands of the same class of representatives, and to some extent the same men. How far your District will benefit by the additional expenditure which will fall upon it is impossible to say; but in my opinion one of the greatest mistakes you have made was in permitting yourselves to be persuaded to adopt urban methods of administration, and more particularly in following the example of your urban neighbours in combining the offices of inspector and surveyor.

It seems to me, always referring to your District, that much which is desirable would be obtained without violent change by a body of Local Government Board of Inspectors in Public Health, similar to the Poor Law Inspectors, who would visit each District periodically. Failing this, that any rural district which was incorrigible, should be handed over to the County Council for administration, the County Council being under statutory obligation to administer the various Acts in it, under heavy penalty.

Some of the recommendations are very practical, and I should advise you to adopt, in any case, that one relating to a register of all dwellings in your District.

The general apathy in rural districts referred to in the Report is a consequence of ignorance, which is the result of want of education of the right kind.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901. You resolved to administer the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with factories, workshops, laundries, workplaces, and homework. The reason I did not point out to you emphatically your duty in this matter before last year was the utter impossibility of administering the Act efficiently with your present staff.

However, in obedience to your instructions, an attempt has been made, and the very imperfect details of the work done to the end of the year are given in the table ordered by the Local Government Board to be filled in by the Medical Officer of Health. A glance at the reports of the Inspectors is sufficient to show, to anyone conversant with your District, the omissions in them. Want of time is the very valid explanation. The return is to be made every six months. Of the defects discovered, "want of cleanliness" in those places visited are the most numerous, and are chiefly found in bakeries, from neglect of linewashing. Insufficient, defective, or absence of closet accommodation was found in 13 cases. The number of persons employed in the 135 shops visited are not generally indicated, but 31 women are employed, 9 in one of the two laundries reported, and 22 in the workrooms of the 9 dressmakers named, in which two apprentices are mentioned. There are two apprentices in a cycle, one in a tailor's and one in a carpenter's workshop. The outworkers have been omitted from the Inspector's inquiries.

Some of the defects noted would not exist if you arranged for frequent and systematic inspection throughout your District. You are required to keep a register of all workshops situate within your District, and you are required, through your officers, to ascertain what workshops are situate in your District. It is impossible to do this effectually without a systematic inspection, almost going from house to house in many places, which will involve a large expenditure of time. On or before the 1st February and the 1st August, the occupiers of factories and workshops, or any place from which work is given out, must send to you lists showing the names and addresses of all persons employed by them either as workmen or as contractors outside such factory, workshop, or place, and the place where they are employed. You have to see that every factory and workshop in your District is provided with sufficient means of escape in case of fire. You are empowered to make byelaws to secure this ; and you have to examine the means of escape proposed to be provided, and see that the doors are made to open outwards where plans of any new buildings intended to be used as a factory or workshop are submitted for approval. Your duties are largely confined to the administration of the Public Health Acts in connection with factories, workshops, workplaces, &c., but the difference from your ordinary methods is that you are under statutory obligation to have each one of the places on the register which you keep inspected at least twice a year. If you fail in your obligations, the Secretary of State may authorise a Factory Inspector to enforce the provisions of the Act in your District, and recover from you any expenses incurred by him.

The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, is very complicated, and appears to be especially so when applied in a District like yours. Factories and workshops are divided up into

several classes, some of which are under the administration of the Factory Inspectors and others are under that of the Local Authority, and there are different regulations for each class. The Medical Officer of Health is required to furnish statistics which he cannot prepare without the fullest reports of the Inspectors. Women and persons under 18 years of age, employed in a workshop are protected as regards the hours they work, hours for meals, warming, ventilation, cleansing, overcrowding, and escape in case of fire; while they are not protected if employed behind a counter, in a shop on the ground floor below the workshop. Unless, indeed, a shop is a "workplace," as the kitchen of a restaurant or a stable yard would seem to be.

I have given you very briefly these few particulars that you may have some idea of what the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act means to you. You may, and probably will, protest, but it is part of the law of the land, and you are bound to provide for its efficient administration,

The Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1901, Sec. 22., was adopted in your District immediately after the passing of the Act.

Administra-
tion of the
Midwives
Act, 1902.

In 1905, the year the Midwives Act came into operation, eight women applied for registration, six of whom were placed on the roll of midwives. Five of these were resident in your District, and three in Urban Districts. In 1906 five residents in your District—at Totland, Freshwaser, Horsebridge Hill, Newchurch, and St. Lawrence—again applied, but they were not all those who had registered in the previous year. Three Urban midwives—resident at Lake (Sandown), Sandown, and Newport—were again registered. In the middle of March, 1907, the three Urban midwives had registered, and the Horsebridge Hill nurse

in your District. Another midwife at Mottistone had registered for the first time. Notices containing the requirements of the Act were sent on the receipt of notice of intention to practise.

An association of ladies exists the object of which is to assist women to undergo training in order that they may practise midwifery in the Isle of Wight rural parishes, each taking one or a group of parishes. It is in contemplation, I believe, to employ the women, whose time is not wholly occupied by "lying-in" cases, as general district nurses. This does not seem entirely satisfactory.

But, during the preliminary adjustment the administration has not been strict, and practically no rule has been enforced. For example, no notifications have been received (under Rule 18) as to deaths, still births, or infectious diseases from midwives; no notification has come of a medical man being called in; and no kind of information is procurable of the number of births attended by midwives. As the Act has been in operation two years, I propose to endeavour to obtain obedience to its rules after six months from the beginning of the year have expired, by which time one may suppose notices will have been given by all those who intend to practise in the District.

During the year I met, at their request, the Committee of a large hospital to which is supplied daily a considerable quantity of milk from dairies in your District. They inquired if I considered it necessary they should continue the outlay involved in sterilizing the milk delivered to them from my District. Most reluctantly I was compelled to confess that in my opinion it was necessary.

Dairies,
Cowsheds,
and
Milkshops.

Local
Government
Board
Inquiries.

Local Government Board Inquiries were held at the beginning of January on an application from you for sanction to borrow £625 for works of sewerage at Alvington, Gunville, and Hunnyhill, in the parish of Carisbrooke, and for sanction to borrow the sums of £600 and £350 for the independent supply of water to Thorley, and the supply of Hampstead in the parish of Shalfleet respectively. As the result of these Inquiries sanction was given. In May a Local Government Board Inquiry was held on your application for sanction to borrow £4,300 for the purposes of the scheme of water supply for Niton. Sanction was refused pending further investigations by you.

Board of
Trade
Inquiry.

In November an Inquiry was held at Wootton by the Harbour Department of the Board of Trade in connection with the application of an owner of property to enclose a portion of the foreshore of Wootton Creek in front of it below high water mark. From the point of view of the interests of the public health it would seem desirable that as much as possible of the foreshore of Wootton Creek should be covered at low water.

After much trouble and persuasion it was supposed the fishermen had abandoned Wootton Creek as a place for depositing oysters, but some of them opposed the granting the application and claimed a right of way along the foreshore at the point in question. The enclosure would, if sanction were granted, cover in part certain beds in which immature oysters are laid. On visiting the spot it was found that oysters belonging to a Sussex Company were lying there awaiting their removal to market.

A very satisfactory indirect result of the Inquiry was the order you have given to extend the outfall of the Red Road sewer to the middle of the Creek.

You have somewhat modified your view with reference to the requirements of the Local Government Board respecting Inspection, by appointing a supplementary or assistant surveyor, who is marking the lines of your sewers on the large Ordnance maps, examining the plans submitted to you of proposed new buildings, and who is generally available for incidental work throughout your District, which otherwise would be done by the Inspectors in their respective sub-districts at the expense of their ordinary routine duties. I would venture most respectfully to point out to you that while affording a certain relief, the arrangement is scarcely likely to satisfy the requirements of the Local Government Board. More than a quarter of a century ago it was reported to the Board by one of their most able experts that not less than four inspectors were necessary to give effect to the statutory obligations of the Sanitary Authority of your District. Since that time the duties have enormously increased, and are increasing year by year, as what I have already reported must surely convince you. I need only refer you to the Housing of the Working Classes, to the Factory and Workshop, and other Acts which you have to administer, to say nothing of the inspection of dairies and other duties which have devolved upon you, as proof that you cannot fulfil your obligations efficiently with your present staff. In private business such a thing would not be attempted, and if it were it would mean ruin.

The Inspectors have furnished me with the following summaries of their work :—

NORTH-EAST MEDENE.

Summary of Work done during the Year 1905.

Nuisances and other matters reported	436
„ abated without final notice	239
Re-inspections made	274
Final notices served	16
Legal proceedings taken	2
Houses reported unfit for habitation	1
„ placed in repair	1
„ cleansed and disinfected	19
Schools fumigated	3
Cases of overcrowding reported	3
„ „ abated	2
Privies put on the pail system	10
New W.C.'s provided	7
Wells sunk and other improved supplies of water obtained ..	19
Pumps repaired	1
Houses drained and connected with sewers	21
„ trapped and repaired	9
Dairies inspected and re-inspected	26
„ limewashed after notice	9
Bakelhouses inspected and re-inspected	10
„ limewashed after notice	4
Plans submitted and approved	22
Inspections made of new buildings	96
Districts scavenged—Brading, Bembridge	2

SEWER OUTFALL, NORTH ARRETON.

It is proposed to extend the sewer outfall to the centre of the Creek, with 9ft. 6in. iron pipes, supported on piles.

During the present year it is proposed to carry a sewer up Staplers, in the Whippingham district, also the extension of the sewer at Palmers Road, Wootton.

The Council's mains (water) should be continued in the village of Wootton Bridge.

BRADING.

This district is now supplied with water, and the supply of the district of Carpenters is under consideration.

BEMBRIDGE.

The pumping plant at the Home Farm Station is working very satisfactorily, and the supply seems abundant.

NEW BUILDINGS ERECTED.

Bembridge new buildings	9
„ in progress	17
„ additions	2
Whippingham and North Arretton—	
completed	3
in progress	2
additions	2
Binstead, in progress	2
Ashley, completed	2

SOUTH-EAST MEDENE.

Summary of Work done during the Year 1905.

Nuisances and other matters reported on	..	..	271
Abated without final notice	..	..	103
Re-inspections made	..	..	214
Notices served	..	..	1
Houses disinfected and cleansed	..	..	13
„ placed in repair	..	..	4
Closets put on pail system	..	..	7
Accumulations and refuse removed	..	..	2
Dairies inspected and re-inspected	..	..	22
Limewashed after notice	..	..	4
Bakehouses inspected and re-inspected	..	..	16
Limewashed after notice	..	..	2
Pumps repaired	..	..	1
Water laid on to houses, Newchurch main	..	..	1
„ „ Lord Alverstone's to private	..	..	1
Reservoir constructed by Ditto, Queen Bower	..	..	1
Scarlet fever cases (10 removed to Isolation Hospital, Ventnor.)			14
Diphtheria „	..	..	1

NEW BUILDINGS.

Plans approved	..	..	15
Newchurch	..	Branston, cottages	2
Arreton	..	Kennerly	2
St. Lawrence		Inglewood, garden cottage in woods, Sir Brooke Hitchin	1
Whitwell	..	Millers Lane, house on Godshill Road, Smarts	1
Godshill	..	Scotland Farm House	1
Shanklin	..	Ninham Farm House	1
„	..	Langnard Manor, addition	
Niton	..	County Council New Schools	1
Godshill	..	„ additions	1
Newchurch	..	„	1

SOUTH-WEST MEDENE.

Summary of Work done during the Year 1905.

Nuisances and other matters reported	482
" abated without final notice	92
Re-inspections made	252
Final notices served	12
Houses reported unfit for habitation	—
" placed in habitable repair	1
" closed	—
" cleaned and disinfected	5
Legal proceedings taken	—
Cases of overcrowding reported	1
Abated	1
Privy cesspools provided	—
Privies put on pail system	15
Wells sunk and other improved supplies obtained	31
" closed	—
Pumps provided	1
House drains connected to sewer	20
" repaired	15
Dairies inspected and re-inspected	69
" linewashed after notice	15
Bakehouses linewashed after notice	19
District scavenged—Carisbrooke	—
District supplied with water—Thorley	—
Plans approved by R.D.C.	34
Inspections of new buildings	142

NEW BUILDINGS ERECTED.

Carisbrooke ..	Priory Road ..	11
" ..	Gunville Lane ..	6
" ..	Alvington Shute ..	1
" ..	Clatterford Road ..	2
" ..	Veres Farm ..	1
Billingham ..	.. ..	4
Chale ..	Fulford, new house ..	1
" ..	" carpenter's shop ..	1
" ..	Lowcliffe, additions ..	1
Shorwell ..	Carpenter's shop ..	1
Brooke ..	Brooke Green ..	—
" ..	Additions ..	1
Inspections and re-inspections under Factory and Workshops		34

EXTENSION OF SEWERS.

Carisbrooke ..	Clatterford Road.
" ..	Alvington Shute.
" ..	Spring Vale Cottages.
" ..	Priory Farm.
" ..	Parkhurst.

NORTH-WEST MEDENE.

Summary of Work done during the Year 1905.

Nuisances and other matters reported..	..	..	502
" abated without final notice ..	..	..	55
Re-inspections made ..	..	..	248
Final notices served ..	..	..	7
Houses reported unfit, &c. ..	..	..	9
" closed ..	..	..	9
" placed in repair ..	..	..	—
" cleansed and disinfected ..	..	..	18
Legal proceedings taken ..	..	..	—
Cases of overcrowding reported ..	..	..	1
" " abated ..	..	..	1
Privy cesspools provided, &c. ..	..	..	10
Privies put on pail system ..	..	..	7
Improved water supplies obtained ..	..	..	12
Wells cleansed ..	..	..	—
" closed ..	..	..	—
Pumps provided ..	..	..	—
Houses drained and connected with sewer ..	..	..	246
House drains repaired and trapped ..	..	..	14
Refuse accumulations removed ..	..	..	2
Workshops inspected and re-inspected ..	..	..	54
" limewashed after notice ..	..	..	3
Dairies inspected and re-inspected ..	..	..	36
" limewashed after notice ..	..	..	2
Bakehouses inspected and re-inspected ..	..	..	16
" limewashed after notice ..	..	..	1
Districts scavenged—Totland, Freshwater, and Yarmouth			
Sewers extended—Totland and Gurnard			
Water mains extended—Hampstead and Gurnard			
Petroleum licenses granted ..	..	..	2
Plans of new buildings ..	..	..	47
Number of houses or buildings ..	..	..	62
Inspections made of new buildings ..	..	..	265

NEW HOUSES ERECTED.

Totland ..	..	..	3
" Avenue ..	..	..	2
Freshwater ..	..	..	2
" Silcombs Lane ..	..	..	4
" Station Road ..	..	..	1
" Colwell ..	..	..	1
" Tennyson Road ..	..	..	3
" School Green ..	..	..	1
" Norton ..	..	..	6
Yarmouth ..	..	..	2
Shalfleet ..	..	..	4
Northwood ..	..	..	—
Total ..	..	..	29

I am indebted to C. D. Vibert, Esq., B.A., Lond., Headmaster of the Grammar School, Newport, for the following summary of meteorological observations taken by him at an elevation of 40 feet to 50 feet above sea level, and about four miles from the coast.

NEWPORT TABLE.

Month.	Maximum for Month.	Minimum for Month.	Mean daily Maxi- mum.	Mean daily Mini- mum.	Mean Temp- erature.	Rain- fall for Month.	Num- ber of wet days.	Greatest fall in one day.
Jan. ...	53·4 on 26th.	22·0 on 24th.	49·3	38·5	43·9	INCHES 7·30	20	INCHES. 1·12
Feb. ...	50·1 on 1st and 14th	24·8 on 13th.	46·4	33·0	39·7	4·00	23	on 2nd. ·67 on 16th.
Mar. ...	63·0 on 6th.	24·0 on 23rd and 30th	50·8	36·3	43·5	1·33	16	·40 on 13th.
April ...	69·5 on 13th.	28·1 on 3rd.	58·5	36·5	47·0	1·33	8	·56 on 5th.
May ...	78·5 on 8th.	31·3 on 18th.	62·1	45·0	53·6	2·08	12	·41 on 23rd
June ...	81·3 on 22nd.	39·9 on 14th.	70·6	47·7	59·2	1·08	8	·75 on 28th.
July ...	83·9 on 18th.	39·9 on 1st.	74·9	52·4	63·7	·59	6	·19 on 18th.
Aug. ...	90·2 on 31st.	44·8 on 20th.	75·9	55·5	65·7	·73	11	·18 on 24th.
Sept. ...	89·1 on 2nd.	35·9 on 26th.	70·5	49·3	59·9	1·19	4	·35 4th&14th
Oct. ...	72·8 on 1st.	32·9 on 26th.	61·8	47·5	54·6	5·36	25	·84 on 29th.
Nov. ...	59·6 on 22nd	26·7 on 13th.	52·8	41·1	47·8	5·31	19	·85 on 6th.
Dec. ...	55·1 on 4th.	23·0 on 30th.	45·1	34·3	39·7	2·01	18	·53 on 30th.
Year ...	90·2 Aug. 31st	22·0 Jan. 24th	59·9	43·1	51·5	32·31	170	1·12 Jan. 2nd.

John Dover, Esq., M.A., Cantab., F.R. Met. Soc., R.D.C. for Totland, has kindly furnished me with the following summary of meteorological observations made by him at Aston House, Totland Bay, on the north-west coast of the

Island, 150 feet above sea level, and about 600 feet from the edge of the cliff.

TOTLAND BAY TABLE.

Month	Maximum for Month.	Minimum for Month.	Mean daily maxi- mum.	Mean daily mini- mum.	Mean Temp- erature.	Rain- fall for Month.	Num- ber of wet days.	Greatest fall in one day.
						INCHES.		INCHES.
Jan. ...	56.2	28.0	48.3	40.1	44.2	6.80	22	1.26
	on 26th	on 21th						on 2nd.
Feb. ...	49.1	26.9	41.8	35.1	40.0	3.13	19	0.52
	on 25th	on 6th						on 16th.
Mar. ...	53.0	28.0	46.8	36.9	41.9	1.44	15	0.31
	on 30th	on 23rd						on 13th.
April ...	63.8	32.9	53.2	38.6	45.9	1.41	7	0.67
	on 10th	on 16th						on 24th.
May ...	72.0	34.9	57.4	45.4	51.4	2.48	12	0.77
	on 13th	on 18th						on 23rd.
June ...	73.4	42.8	63.1	49.1	56.1	1.33	9	0.94
	on 22nd	on 5th						on 28th.
July ...	74.8	43.8	67.9	53.8	60.9	0.78	8	0.15
	on 30th	on 1st						on 12th.
Aug. ...	80.1	50.2	68.9	57.7	63.3	0.75	7	0.23
	on 30th	on 29th						on 13th.
Sept. ...	79.0	41.4	65.7	52.6	59.1	0.95	5	0.32
	on 1st	on 26th						on 14th.
Oct. ...	65.0	37.1	59.1	50.9	55.0	5.87	24	0.94
	on 4th	on 14th						on 10th.
Nov. ...	57.0	30.9	52.3	43.4	47.9	4.21	21	0.73
	on 22nd	on 13th						on 6th.
Dec. ...	54.0	26.8	44.7	36.5	40.6	1.88	17	8.46
	on 3rd	on 30th						on 30th.
Year ...	80.1	26.8	56.0	45.0	50.5	31.03	166	1.26
	Aug. 30th	Dec. 30th						Jan. 2nd.

The total rainfall in 1906 at Newport—which is situated about two miles due north of the geographical centre of the Isle of Wight, and is separated from it by that part of the central range of Downs to the west of the Medina Valley—was 32.31in. ; on the north-west coast, at Totland Bay it was 31.03in. ; at Osborne, on the north coast, it was 31.22in. Osborne is 172ft. above sea level. In 1905 the rainfall at Newport was 27.07in. ; in 1904 it was 29.31in. ; in 1903,

38.06in. ; in 1902, 26.19in. ; in 1901, 25.89in. ; in 1900, 31.46in. ; in 1899, 25.29in. ; in 1898, 28.24in. ; in 1897, 29.26in. ; in 1896, 27.32in. ; in 1895, 29.15in. ; in 1894, 39.74in. ; in 1893, 28.53in. ; in 1892, 24.97in. ; in 1891, 38.96in. ; in 1890, 26.31in. ; in 1889, 28.34in. ; in 1888, 29.02in. ; in 1887, 24.43in. ; in 1886, 38.07in. ; in 1885, 29.32in. The mean rainfall at Newport in the ten years 1897-1906 was 29.39in. The mean for twenty years, 1885-1906, was 29.96in.

The rainfall at Totland Bay in 1905 was 24.65in. In 1904 it was 27.29in. ; and in 1903, 35.36in. The mean for four years was 29.58in.

There were 170 wet days at Newport and 166 at Totland Bay in 1906. In 1905 there were 164 wet days at Newport. In 1904 there were 169 wet days ; in 1903, 186 ; in 1902, 158 ; in 1901, 133 ; in 1900, 176 ; in 1899, 137 ; in 1898, 150 ; in 1897, 172 ; in 1896, 153 ; in 1895, 149 ; in 1894, 183 ; in 1893, 146 ; in 1892, 172 ; in 1891, 172 ; in 1890, 153 ; in 1889, 163 ; in 1888, 197 ; in 1887, 141 ; in 1886, 202 ; in 1885, 159. The mean number of wet days in the decennium 1885-1894 was 167, and in the decennium 1895-1904 it was 158. The mean number of wet days in the twenty-two years 1885-1906 was 164. At Totland Bay the mean number of wet days in four years was 164.*

The maximum temperature of the year at Newport was 90.2 on August 31st, and at Totland Bay 80.1 on August 30th ; the minimum temperature at Newport was 22.0 on January 24th, and at Totland Bay 26.8 on December 30th.

The mean temperature of 1906 was 51.5 at Newport, and 50.5 at Totland Bay.

*Mr. Dover points out that a fall of one inch of rain is equivalent to 10 tons of water to the acre. A ton of water is equal to 224 gallons ; that a day is termed wet if over hundredth of an inch of rain fall ; that a day is called foggy if one cannot see two miles.

JANUARY. January was an exceptionally mild, and very wet, and somewhat stormy month. The mean temperature for the month at Newport was 43.9, and at Totland Bay 44.2. 7.30in. of rain fell at Newport in 20 days, and at Totland Bay 6.80in. in 22 days. The greatest amount of rain in one day, 1.12in., fell at Newport on the 2nd, and on the same day 1.26in. fell at Totland Bay. 7.05in. of rain fell at Osborne in this month, the largest amount in January for 48 years. There were 90.5 hours of bright sunshine, and 7 sunless days at Totland Bay, against an average of 72.3 and 10.4.

FEBRUARY. It was wet, colder, and still stormy in February, but towards the end of the month the conditions were more genial. The mean temperature at Newport was 39.7, and at Totland Bay 40.0. In 23 days 4.00in. of rain fell at Newport, and at Totland Bay 3.13in. of rain fell in 19 days. The greatest fall in one day at Newport was 0.67in. on the 16th, and at Totland Bay 0.52in. On the same day 3.66in. of rain fell at Osborne. There were 99.8 hours of bright sunshine, the average being 85.2 at Totland Bay, and 6 sunless days, the average being 7.8.

MARCH. The mean temperature at Newport in March was 43.5, and at Totland Bay 41.0. It was an abnormal month; it was warm at the beginning and towards the end, but at Newport, both on the 23rd and 30th there were 8 degrees of frost, and at Totland Bay 4 degrees of frost on the 23rd. There was a great deal of stormy weather in the Isle of Wight with wind from the south-west and north and north-east. 1.33in. of rain fell in 16 days at Newport, and 1.44 in 15 days at Totland Bay. 1.36in. of rain fell at Osborne. There were 124.0 hours of sunshine—average 123.3—at Totland Bay, and 8—average 6.0—sunless days

APRIL. April was an exceptionally bright, sunny month. There was but one sunless day—average 3.0—at Totland Bay, where there were 246.4 hours—average 168.1—of bright sunshine; but it was cold in the shade, the wind being almost continuously from the north, north-west, north-east, and east. The mean temperature of the month at Newport was 47.0, and at Totland Bay, 45.9. 1.33in. of rain fell at Newport in 8 days, 0.56in. falling on the 5th, and 1.41in. at Totland Bay in 7 days, 0.67in. falling on the 24th. 1.14in. fell at Osborne.

MAY. The mean temperature in May at Newport was 53.6, and at Totland Bay 51.4. It was not a genial May; the sunshine was deficient, and there were several days of cold wind. 2.08in. of rain fell at Newport in 12 days, and 2.48in. at Totland Bay in 12 days, while 1.74in. fell at Osborne. There were 5 sunless days at Totland Bay—average 2.8—and 170.8 hours of bright sunshine—average 208.2.

JUNE. June was a warm, summer-like month with sunny days. The mean temperature at Newport was 59.2, and at Totland Bay 56.1. 1.08in. of rain fell at Newport in 8 days, and 1.33in. at Totland Bay in 9 days. 1.37in. fell at Osborne. There was heavy rain on the 28th and morning of the 29th, after which the temperature fell. On the 28th 0.78in. fell at Newport, and 0.94 at Totland Bay. At Totland Bay there were 265.3—average 211.3—hours of bright sunshine. The wind was variable and from all quarters.

JULY. There was splendid weather in July, dry, warm and bright. Mean temperature at Newport was 63.7, and at Totland Bay 60.9. 0.59in. of rain fell at Newport during 6 days, and at Totland Bay 0.78in. in 8 days. 0.74in. fell at

Osborne. There were 272.5 days of bright sunshine at Totland Bay—average 259.2—and no sunless days.

AUGUST August was a very fine, warm, dry month. The mean temperature at Newport was 65.7, and at Totland Bay 63.3. The maximum temperature for the year was 90.2 on the 31st at Newport, and 80.1 on the 30th at Totland Bay. .73in. of rain fell at Newport in 11 days, and .75in. at Totland Bay in 7 days. .87in. of rain fell at Osborne. There were 235.1—average 200.1—hours of bright sunshine at Totland Bay, and one—average 8—sunless days.

SEPTEMBER. September was a beautiful month with a maximum temperature of 89.1 on the 2nd, at Newport and of 79.0 on the 1st at Totland Bay, where there were 198.3—average 150.7—hours of bright sunshine, and no sunless days. The mean temperature at Newport was 59.9 and at Totland Bay 59.1. 1.19in. of rain fell in 4 days at Newport, and 0.95in. in 5 days at Totland Bay. 1.31in. fell at Osborne.

OCTOBER. October was a very mild and cloudy month, with spells of bright sunshine. 5.36in. of rain fell at Newport in 25 days, and 5.87in. at Totland Bay in 24 days. 5.30in. fell at Osborne. There were 104.7—average 103.6—hours of bright sunshine at Totland Bay, and 2—average 4.6—sunless days. The mean temperature at Newport was 54.6, and at Totland Bay 55.0.

NOVEMBER. November was a very mild, wet month. There were 63.9—average 76.9—hours of bright sunshine at Totland Bay, and 13—average 9.2—sunless days at Totland Bay. 4.74in. of rain fell at Osborne, 50 per cent. above the average of 48 years. 5.31in. of rain fell at Newport in 19 days, and 4.21in. at Totland Bay in 21 days. The

mean temperature at Newport was 47.0 and at Totland Bay 47.9.

DECEMBER. At the beginning December was mild and fairly genial, but for the last third and especially towards the end of the month it was cold and damp. The mean temperature was 39.3 at Newport, and 40.6 at Totland Bay. The maximum temperature was 55.1 on the 4th, and the minimum was 23.0 on the 30th at Newport, whilst at Totland Bay the maximum was 54.0 on the 3rd, and the minimum was 26.8 on the 30th. There were 71.9—average 51.7—hours of bright sunshine, and 13 sunless days at Totland Bay. 2.01 in. of rain fell at Newport in 18 days, and 1.88 on 17 days at Totland Bay. 1.94 in. fell at Osborne.

The summer of 1906 was abnormal, inasmuch as it was one of the warmest, driest, and most brilliant summers for many years. With the exception of part of August, the barometer was high for the whole period from June to September, inclusive. At Totland Bay the mean was 30.172 in., and in London 30.12 in. This high average has only been equalled or exceeded in London eight times since 1774, 132 years, viz., 1804, 1806, 1810, 1826, 1865, 1868, 1870, 1887. The Totland Bay mean has only been exceeded in London three times in 132 years, viz. in 1826, 1865, and 1887. In September the mean was 30.24 in., and in London 30.196 in. The average for September was only exceeded four times in 132 years in London, and the Totland Bay mean for September was only exceeded in London once in 132 years, viz. in 1865, when it was 30.246 in. The mean rainfall in the four months was .89 in. at Newport, and .95 at Totland Bay. But for the heavy fall on June 28th the mean would have been lower. The sunshine was much above the average over the whole country. At Totland Bay there were 971.2 hours of bright sunshine or a

mean of 242.8. The mean for the whole year was 226, a number which requires correction, as sunshine cannot be measured for an hour before sunset. It was exceeded only by Bournemouth, the mean of which was 230 hours. Up to July 21st the temperature was comparatively cool, but from that date, the heat was for the most part above the normal. The chief feature of the whole summer was the remarkable heat wave between August 29 and September 3. On August 30th the maximum temperature was 80.1 at Totland Bay, and on September 1st it was 79.0. On August 31st it was 90.2 at Newport, and on September 2nd it was 89.1. The record at Greenwich Observatory was: August 31st, 94.3 degrees; September 1st, 91.9; September 2nd, 93.5; September 3rd, 91.0. As the result of the high summer temperature the air was remarkably dry.

Excessive heat always causes a rise in the death-rate, and when the temperature rose above 72 degrees the mortality began to increase. Singularly the infantile death-rate bore a less proportion to the general death rate than it had previously done.

3. THE SANITARY STATE OF THE DISTRICT GENERALLY AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

Minor epidemic diseases were somewhat prevalent in your District, and there were cases of the more important forms in certain localities.

Diphtheria. A case of DIPHTHERIA in an infant was convalescing at Whippingham, and there were cases convalescing at Bembridge and Totland.

Scarlet Fever. Cases of SCARLET FEVER at Bonchurch were convalescing in the Undercliff Isolation Hospital at Ventnor, and at the Coastguard Station, Blackgang. There were also several cases of the disease at Brading.

Enteric Fever. There was a case of ENTERIC FEVER at Bembridge and another case was convalescing at Yarmouth.

Chicken Pox. CHICKEN-POX prevailed at Parkhurst, Osborne Cottage, Chillerton, Rookley, Blackwater, and elsewhere.

Mumps. MUMPS was prevalent at Niton, Calbourne, Thorley, Locks Green, and in some of the central districts.

Whooping Cough. There were cases of WHOOPING COUGH in the Arreton Valley, Carisbrooke, and elsewhere.

East Medene

Bembridge. At the end of the year the sanitary state of Bembridge was satisfactory. One or two old nuisances were permanently abated last year, more especially a recurring nuisance from

an accumulation of manure in the farm yard of a dairy place abutting on the highway, which should not have been permitted to continue so long. Bembridge has progressed rapidly of late years, principally because of the enlightened assistance you have had within the place. It is sewered, scavenged, and has two sources of water supply, from the Bagshot Sands, and the Bembridge Limestone, near the surface, towards Brading. The water from the deep well leaves a ferruginous deposit. It may be necessary to remove it by chemical treatment. There was an increase of nine houses at the end of the year, and seventeen houses were in process of construction.

At last, after many years of ineptitude and opposition, the Brading houses of Brading at the close of the year were supplied with pure Upper Greensand water by the Isle of Wight Waterworks Company. This completely changes its sanitary character. It is sewered and scavenged, but Yarbridge is still without sewerage.

You have let the contract for the water supply of Carpenters, the small hamlet north of Brading I have already referred to.

As the Isle of Wight Waterworks Company have availed Yaverland themselves of their right under the Act of Parliament to supply Brading, they should be called upon to supply Yaverland and its dairies. You have had this supply in contemplation for many years, and, but for the determined opposition of the parish of Brading, you would have supplied Brading, and Yaverland in conjunction with it.

Adgestone is not so remote as it seems. It should also be supplied fully by the Company. It is practically part of Brading, and may affect Brading as it is affected by it, as in times past.

- Alverstone.** Alverstone is now supplied independently with water by its owner from his reservoir at Apse, a most satisfactory sanitary improvement.
- Knighton.** The main pumping station for the supply of Ryde is situated at Knighton, and some of its houses on the estate of one of the owners are supplied from these works. Every house in Knighton, Lower Knighton, and this district should be supplied from this source, or by extension of the Newchurch main beyond Langbridge.
- Langbridge.** The tiny hamlet of Langbridge is supplied from the Newchurch supply.
- Newchurch.** The sanitary condition of Newchurch is changed completely since the water was laid on from Apse Heath after the usual delays and opposition from the parish. When I first knew Newchurch officially, the drinking water was taken for the most part from a public well into which the drainage of the graveyard, to which it was in close proximity, the well being just outside the graveyard wall, soaked. The closure of this well, notwithstanding the most violent protests on the part of the parish, was the commencement of the very slow sanitary regeneration of Newchurch. Vigilant inspection work is still necessary in this, as in every other part of your District, with reference to filth nuisances. A long needed improvement, the provision of proper closet and urinal accommodation, has at last been provided at the Newchurch Schools; and two houses had been added to the parish at the close of the year.
- Apse Heath.** Apse Heath, on the Newport-Sandown highway, is sewered after having been supplied by its owner with water from the Upper Greensand at Apse. This supply has enabled you to provide for the necessities of Newchurch

and Langbridge, and other places outside the Alverstone estate. The water should be laid on to every house, for none of the domestic supplies are satisfactory.

As I have frequently pointed out, some effort should be made to supply Whiteley Bank either from Apse Heath or Wroxall. Whether from one or the other there must be a certain length of "unremunerative" main, but there are farm and other houses which would be supplied en route. The main having been carried to Whiteley Bank and French Mill might readily be extended to Sandford. Your abundant experience has taught you to avoid, wherever possible, water companies, whether private or municipal.

Wroxall is one of those semi-urban places in your District, the sanitary difficulties of which increase year by year. Its independent water supply has saved Wroxall from its frequent epidemics of preventible disease of a virulent type ; but, situated on the Gault clay, into which its filth cannot soak, its filth nuisances must necessarily be obvious, and in spite of all the improvement which has taken place and is taking place, they give rise to recriminations amongst neighbours which militate against the general well-being. They have in common, however, resistance to scavenging, which they have hitherto avoided, although they pledged themselves to it, while you have the reproach of non-administration of the Rivers Pollution Act. But the time has come for sewerage Wroxall ; and although the preliminary stage of scavenging apart from sewerage will be missed, scavenging will be still necessary. The sewer will probably be carried along the line of the stream towards French Mills, where the sewage will pass through tanks on the septic principle, and the effluent be led in irrigation channels, the soil between which will be cultivated.

Bonechurch.

There is very little change in Bonechurch from year to year. It is supplied with water independently from the Ventnor Waterworks, and is scavenged. Its sewage passes in great part into the broken ground upon which it stands. This is an unsatisfactory arrangement, and a Local Government Board Inquiry was held upon the subject by Mr. Codrington many years ago. His conclusions were, I think, inevitable, having regard to the fact that it has an independent water supply. Any pipes used, even though of iron, would be liable to fracture. No nuisance arises now, excepting from sewers which have been constructed near the sea to drain houses there. During the year, too, there were complaints of a nuisance from an outfall to the east of Ventnor, but within its boundary. The foreshore of Bonechurch should be systematically inspected and any nuisance should be at once remedied by extension of the outfalls or otherwise. But it is dangerous to drink underground water either at Bonechurch or throughout the Undercliff, wherever cesspit drainage obtains. Franklin, years ago, referred to the water from a pipe in an ornamental recess by the roadside at Lower Bonechurch, from which water was carried for drinking by the people in the neighbourhood, as contaminated. I traced cases of mild enteric fever to this source, although chemical analysis showed only slight trace of impurity, and your predecessors cut off the water. There was a similar drinking place on the highway at St. Lawrence the water of which was slightly polluted. The road was diverted, and this possible source of danger is no longer accessible.

St. Lawrence
Whitwell,
and Niton
Undercliff.

Your efforts to supply St. Lawrence and that part of the parish of Whitwell situated in the Undercliff with wholesome water have hitherto failed because of the refusal of the trustees to the owners of the estate to grant facilities. Some houses outside the Ventnor boundary are supplied

from the Ventnor Waterworks. You have communicated with the Company with a view of their exercising their rights to supply St. Lawrence, but they do not seem inclined to exercise them. The Royal National Hospital for Consumption supplies itself from the Upper Greensand below the cliff. It would be possible to supply Whitwell Undercliff from the north, but the expense for so small an area would be prohibitive. When you obtain a supply for Niton you have arranged to extend it to Niton Undercliff. Two houses were built in the parish of St. Lawrence during the year.

Whitwell, Nettlecombe, and Southford are supplied independently with Upper Greensand water from Berelay. Although their water supplies afford great sanitary protection as shown by the modification of the severity of the type of such an epidemic disease as diphtheria, the filth which passes into the streams of such clay villages as Whitwell increases at least in volume. The Whitwell stream is a tributary of the EASTERN YAR, the water of which is taken for the supply of Sandown. Two new houses had been built at Whitwell at the end of the year.

The semi-urban village of Niton, for which you have been striving to obtain a water supply for many years, situated on the Gault, also discharges much of its filth into the main stream of the YAR as it passes through it. You cannot sewer Niton until you obtain water for flushing purposes, but you might scavenge it, and if you did so you might cover in the great receptacle for all kinds of nuisances through which the stream runs. But the fear is that, without systematic inspection, it might be made an actual sewer by connecting drains with it. New Council Schools have been provided at Niton, a most certain additional sanitary safeguard.

Godshill.

Although a stream does not pass through it, such a system of sewage obtains at Godshill, a large agricultural village supplied with water from shallow wells in highly cultivated gardens. One cannot help feeling that with greater vigilance and diligence, the water supply so long considered might have been obtained for Godshill, even though an additional hundred pounds had been paid for it. Another house had been added at Godshill at the end of the year, and additions to the Schools in the shape of proper sanitary arrangements had been made.

Merston.

Merston is a hamlet which covers a considerable area. It is supplied by surface wells, but its ancient midden privies have largely disappeared, and pail closets have been substituted for them. You will probably extend the Arreton water supply when you have obtained it to Merston.

Arreton.

The large agricultural village of Arreton still awaits its much needed water supply, before referred to. It is surprising there is not a greater amount of sickness in Arreton for it has cesspit drainage, and it obtains its water from wells in cultivated gardens. The Parochial Schools have given a great deal of trouble, and they continued insanitary at the end of the year. Two houses were built in the parish of Arreton in 1906.

Blackwater.

The hamlet of Blackwater was in the same state at the end of 1906 as at the end of 1902, when I described it in my Annual Report pp. 55-56.

Shide.

The condition of Shide, just outside the southern boundary of Newport, and Blackwater Road was much the same at the end of the year as at the end of 1905. An overpowering pig nuisance can only be kept in check by systematic by-weekly visits of the Inspector.

Sewerage and its water supply have altered the sanitary aspect of Fairlee Road, situated just outside the Newport boundary on the north of Fairy Hole. The water supply has been of great benefit to the clay district through which the main passes to the East Cowes boundary at Osborne. It has stimulated building operations and will continue to do so.

One despaired of seeing a water supply in the Whippingham district, but it is there. In a clay district sewerage is often imperative, and it is so there. You have elaborated a comprehensive scheme of sewerage for Whippingham village, but you have been unable to obtain the co-operation of the Department of State which has control of the land. Every sanitary authority ought to be able to command the advice and assistance of any Government department as in other countries. Serious sewage nuisances have existed for many years at Whippingham, especially one caused by the overflow of cesspits into a ditch. You propose to lay drain pipes and cover in the ditch, but the effect will simply be to carry the nuisance further on, but away from dwellings.

An important part of the parish of Whippingham is Staplers. Staplers, near Newport. It is a residential district in part, and has water supply and sewerage in part. You have now decided to extend the sewer, as I have previously stated, a greatly-needed improvement.

The parish of Wootton is included in Whippingham for administration purposes, but the anomalies and, in some respects, the absurdities of the arrangement will now cease as Whippingham and North Arreton are combined. The village of Wootton, whether it be situated in the parish of Wootton, of North Arreton, or of Binstead, is a semi-urban

place, which water supply and sewerage have greatly assisted to develop. At the end of the year it was more prosperous, and in a better sanitary condition than at any previous period. Potentially, it was better than it appeared, for you have ordered the outfall of the Red Road to discharge under water at low tide, your water main to be extended to all parts, and an additional sewer to be laid in the Palmer's Road. At the end of the year three new houses had been built in Whippingham and North Arreton and two were in progress.

Kite Hill.

The part of Wootton to the east of the Bridge is partly in Arreton, and partly in Binstead. Some of the houses are supplied with water from the Binstead, and some from the old Wootton main. You will probably leave the whole of the supply to Binstead instead of carrying your main to the other side of the Creek.

Fishbourne.

At the mouth of Wootton Creek on the east is Fishbourne, a place capable of development, and which has developed of late years. When further development comes its open drains discharging on to the foreshore will probably be converted into a regular sewerage system discharging its sewage below low water mark. But Fishbourne has an independent water supply from the Binstead main which is a great gain. It is not proper to store oysters in the Creek off Fishbourne.

Binstead.

Binstead is a semi-urban and suburban district, divided from Ryde by the rivulet which constitutes its western boundary. It has an independent water supply from Ryde, and is sewered but not scavenged. By the extension of its sewerage system and its water supply, its sanitary condition has greatly improved during the last few years. Two additional houses were being built at the end of the year.

Another semi-urban suburb of Ryde in your District, Haylands. Haylands, has also greatly improved although, like other such areas, it requires constant inspection. It is sewered and is supplied with water by Ryde. The water should be laid on to every house, as it is to most.

Still further south is Upton, a collection of houses important because it supplies milk and dairy and garden produce to Ryde. The dispute about the drainage of cottages at the top of Upton Shute is not yet settled with the adjoining owner. Upton obtains its water from the Haven Street main.

A district known as Ashley is in part a continuation of Ashley. Ashley Road outside the Borough of Ryde, and in part a rural area beyond. It receives water from the Ryde main, but is also dependent upon surface wells. Two new houses were completed in Ashley at the close of the year.

A great advance was made when water was carried to Haven Street by extension of the Haylands main. Notwithstanding there were only a few wells in the gravel at the top of the hill which drains heavily manured gardens, there has been reluctance on the part of the inhabitants to avail themselves of the public water supply, which should be laid on to every house. It is a very ancient clay village and although filth nuisances have generally disappeared, they are still in evidence. Some of them can only be permanently remedied by sewerage. Frequent and from house to house inspections are essential in such a place.

You have scarcely come to the end of your labours at Freshwater. The sewerage has been completed, and at the close of the year only about 50 houses remained to be connected with the sewer. A great work has been accom-

West Medene
Freshwater.

plished there. Notwithstanding the mistakes of the past, due to the apathy and opposition of the inhabitants, especially with reference to water supply, which although advised and urged with the utmost insistence was opposed almost with violence, Freshwater was never in such a satisfactory sanitary state as at the end of 1906. A water supply from the source suggested would have been the property of Freshwater within ten years of the present time, and the income from it would have even now enormously relieved the financial pressure of sewerage. But Freshwater has its water supply, its sewerage and its scavenging, and its sanitary necessities are satisfied ; yet one cannot help regretting it has not obtained the best possible because it did not suit the convenience of two or three interested men, whose opposition would have been crushed if your predecessors had been determined to follow the advice given, and do what was right for the uninformed people. Now they would purchase an inferior water supply to that they might have had, but the time has passed, and the Freshwater and Totland Water Company is a valuable commercial undertaking. Twelve houses had been added to Freshwater at the close of the year.

Totland.

At the time when so much might have been done for the future prosperity of Freshwater by the Rural Sanitary Authority, Totland was under firm and intelligent local control. It is sewered and scavenged and has a water supply from two sources. Five houses were added to Totland in 1906, two of them in the Avenue district.

Yarmouth.

Among the places which have advanced most perceptibly within the past few years is the ancient borough of Yarmouth. Your predecessors forced sewerage upon it. It was not well done, but it served to abate many nuisances. I believe the opposition was so great that the people

stopped the laying of the pipes more than once. The dangerous old wells are closed, and Yarmouth is supplied with water from Freshwater. It requires the constant supervision of the Inspector, but it is a comparatively clean town now. Six houses were added to it last year. Yarmouth is scavenged.

A building estate has been developing for some years Bouldnor-on-Sea. just east of Yarmouth—Bouldnor-on-Sea. It is supplied with water by extension of the Yarmouth main. It is unfortunate that as your predecessors failed to insist on the undertaking being properly prepared for development by constructing sewers, if they had the power, you did not compromise with the owners, for the sewage from the houses on the Newport Road has been a source of considerable nuisance. You have now determined that it shall be disposed of within the curtilages of the houses.

To the east of Bouldnor, Cranmore, another building Cranmore. estate, is developing. The houses are supplied with water from the Shalfleet main. When sewerage becomes necessary at Cranmore it will be difficult to provide it. Cranmore had two more houses at the end of the year.

The agricultural village of Wellow with its farmsteads and Wellow and Thorley. cottages has greatly benefited by the water supply of the parish of Shalfleet, of which it forms part. The parish of Thorley with its village has formed a notable contrast to it with its polluted wells until now. At the close of the year many of the people of Thorley had the protection of wholesome water, which they have not hitherto known, by the extension of the Shalfleet main from Wellow.

The hamlet of Ningwood has the same protection, the Ningwood. same convenience, and the same comfort, from abundance

of water possessed by Thorley, and to which it was also a stranger until quite recently. The Shalfleet main has been extended to Hampstead, another very satisfactory improvement.

Newbridge. The sanitary history of Newbridge was not, one would suppose, a very pleasing one for a self-respecting authority to contemplate a short time back. The independent water supply has snatched it from the hourly risk of disease and death.

Shalfleet. On both sides of the stream the people of Shalfleet will now have wholesome water instead of drinking, and using for domestic purposes the polluted water from the "brook," their only source of supply for centuries, at least to Saxon times.

Calbourne. The people of Calbourne, too, will no longer have to drink or "fetch" polluted water from the stream or public well.

Newtown. The old borough of Newtown was greatly blessed by the deep well to the Bembridge Limestone provided a few years ago ; but now they have the water at their doors, and are saved the labour of pumping.

Porchfield and Locks Green. It would be instructive to compare Porchfield and Locks Green and their sanitary state to-day with the description given of them by Dr. Ballard a quarter of a century ago. But their water supply has crowned the improvement which has crept on all too slowly for long years.

Gunville North, Forest Side. Gunville may be conveniently divided for descriptive purposes into Gunville North, from Forest Road to the stream, and Gunville South, from the stream to Carisbrooke Village, of which it forms part. The whole of Gunville and Forest

Side is supplied with water by the Newport Corporation acting as a water company. There is promise of building development on the Forest Road.

The Workhouse is supplied with water from a deep well to the Bagshot Sands. It drains into a cesspit with an overflow by means of which the effluent reaches the Medina estuary. The Workhouse.

Skirting the Workhouse grounds is Dodnor Lane, on which are dairy places from which Newport is in part supplied with milk. They obtain their water from rain-water tanks and surface wells. The Newport main should be extended along Dodnor Lane to Dodnor. Dodnor and Dodnor Lane.

The Newport Corporation acting as a water company supplies Parkhurst Barracks and Prison. They have a joint sewerage system. The sewage is discharged into the Medina estuary after treatment. Parkhurst Barracks and Prison.

In my Annual Report, since the parish of Northwood received its water supply, I have described the Medina Cement works as participating in the supply. It has been pointed out to me I am in error. The necessity seemed so great I concluded, when negotiations were opened up with the Northwood Parochial Committee, it was arranged the water was to be laid on. The only cognisance I have of what passes between your Council and the Parochial Committees is what I may happen to hear read at your meetings or what the Inspectors may report when they have attended a Parochial Committee meeting by invitation. The Medina Cement Works.

The nuisance caused by the discharge from the irregular sewerage system at Horsebridge Hill on to a meadow to the east of the highway has been remedied for the time being. Horsebridge Hill and Noke Common.

Your application to be permitted to connect with the Prison sewer was refused by the Home Office.

Northwood. The parish of Northwood with its numerous hamlets, of which Horsebridge Hill and Noke Common form part, is greatly benefiting by its water supply. Four houses were built in the Parish of Northwood, including Gurnard, in 1906.

Gurnard. The sanitary aspect of Gurnard at the close of the year was even more satisfactory than at the close of recent years since it has had its water supply, inasmuch as it has good sanitary public elementary schools, and the sewer has been extended.

Hunnyhill,
in the parish
of Caris-
brooke. The increase of the Hunnyhill section of your District, which is supplied with water from Newport, has necessitated sewerage apart from the Newport system. You are about to carry out the scheme for the purposes of which you have received sanction to borrow.

Carisbrooke. Carisbrooke Village includes the ancient village, and Gunville, Alvington, Priory, and Clatterford. Twenty houses were added to the parish in 1906. As I have previously pointed out in speaking of the history of the year, sewerage has been extended in Clatterford Road, Alvington, and in the Priory district, and you have decided to lay a sewer in the Gatcombe Road to drain the Convent and other houses. Gunville South should be sewered. A careful study of the history of sewerage in Carisbrooke cannot but be admonitory. Carisbrooke proper is scavenged. I have already dwelt upon the water question in Carisbrooke.

Chillerton
and
Gatcombe. It is an anomaly that with millions of gallons of the purest water at its source running to waste through Gatcombe and

Chillerton the people should not have wholesome water. This condition of things continued at the end of the year. In my last Annual Report (1905), p. 66, I said : "You are paying far too much for water taken out of your district and afterwards sold to you by the towns. The ownership of water should vest in the community when needed by them for sanitary purposes at least." A new farmhouse was built at Veres during the year.

Four substantial semi-detached cottages were built at Billingham. Billingham, an outlying portion of the parish of Shorwell, during 1906.

Chale and Blackgang, those interesting combined health resorts on the south-west coast of the Isle of Wight, have an excellent water supply from the Upper Greensand. The number of houses had increased by one at the end of the year, and an additional carpenter's shop had been built.

A carpenter's shop was also added to the parish of Shorwell. At the end of the year the sanitary condition of Shorwell was much as it was at the close of 1905, but it was infinitely better than it was a few years ago. Such a picturesque village with its manor houses and other associations with the past must always be regarded with interest by the cultured resident and visitor. It is to be earnestly hoped that your efforts for its sanitary improvement and well-being may result in assisting to make it the model village it should be.

The little hamlet of Limerstone, consisting of the farm and its cottages, was one of the first places in your District to provide an independent supply by means of a tap by the roadside. The water is now laid on to all the houses.

Brighstone. The water supply at Brighstone, intended at first for the supply of the village only, the people of which drank from the stream into which its sewage passed, has been gradually extended throughout the parish and even beyond its borders. When the Isle of Wight is re-discovered as a health resort, Brighstone will be frequented, but before that time it should be sewered, and the water of its brooks rendered pure enough for dairy cows to drink from.

Mottistone, Hulverstone, and Brook. The hamlets of Mottistone and Hulverstone and the village of Brook are supplied independently with water from the Upper Greensand.

When you begin to treat the sewage of some of the populous inland villages of your District by means of septic tanks and irrigation, you will probably consider the question with reference to some of the coast villages, the once pure waters of which, sewage laden and black, course down the "chines" to foul the foreshore on their way to the sea.

Byelaws. For many years you have had byelaws for new buildings, for dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops, and for slaughter-houses. You have also regulations for house connections with sewers and water mains.

You have provided yourselves with what aids and facilities have been available to assist you in doing your work efficiently. You have even taken the lead of the rural districts in adopting permissive Acts of Parliament. It is true you do not possess an Isolation Hospital, but you have spent more trouble and time in considering the matter, in preparing for it, in obtaining plans and securing the option of a suitable site than has probably been expended by any other authority, urban or rural. You have conferred great

benefits on your District, and in the independent water supplies you have given it, you have safeguarded the future of its people. And yet you have failed. Why is it ? With all possible respect I venture to say I think it may be in part due to your permitting yourselves to be dominated by misconceptions, and what I may call chimeras. One of the misconceptions seems to me to be that obedience in sanitary administration, whether it be to the law or to the Local Government Board, is permissive and not obligatory. Another is that the importance of your sanitary duties is exaggerated. It seems almost a chimera that with such an exceptionally low sanitary rate you have an idea you cannot afford what is required of you. Of the same character, too, seems the minimising of the necessity of officials, that is to say of skilled servants trained to a particular kind of work. A quarter of a century ago a crisis came to your District. The Sanitary Authority were warned and advised and they were wise in completely changing the character of their sanitary administration. A quarter of a century has passed and another crisis has arisen. The sanitary work of your District has increased at least four-fold, and it is well for the people that it has so increased. But you have not sufficient strength to carry on that work efficiently. The expert who advised your predecessors informed them that four sanitary inspectors would be necessary to carry on the inspection work of your District. They thought they would try two first. Nominally the work of two inspectors is being done now. I need only remind you of the increased demands upon you yourselves in this connection now as compared with even ten years ago.

As the person who knows, perhaps, your Sanitary District and its requirements better than any other, I have, rightly or wrongly endeavoured to do my duty by speaking

plainly, but not, I trust, discourteously. My only object has been the good of the people for whose welfare I have striven for so many years.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. GROVES.

CARISBROOKE,

